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SERIES

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CURT HENNIG'S  
AWA WORLD TITLE!

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# Wrestling

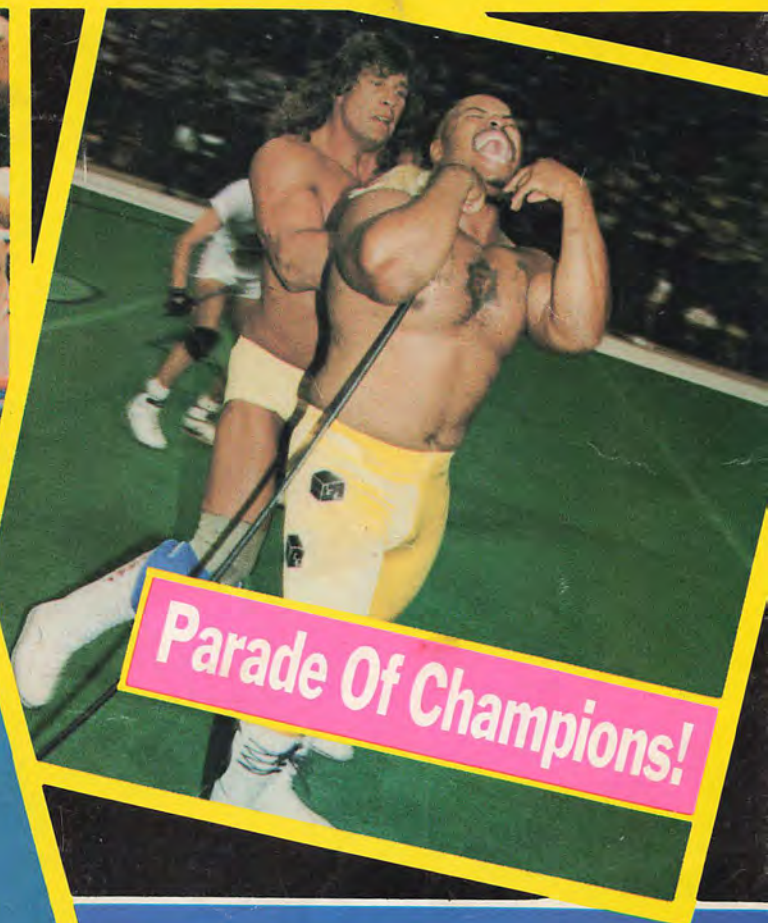
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45 DAYS OF  
GUTS AND GLORY!



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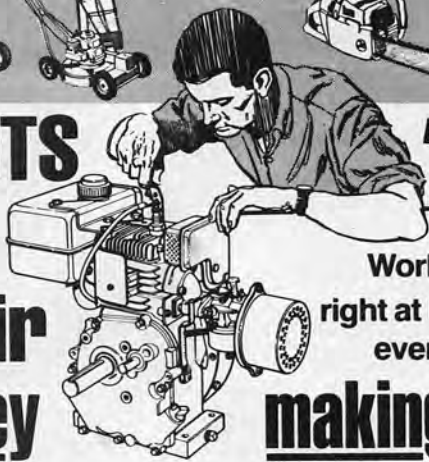
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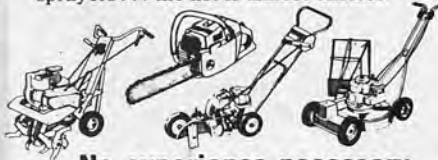
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INSIDE

# Wrestling

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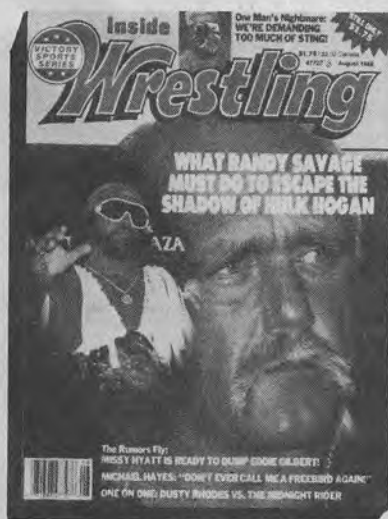


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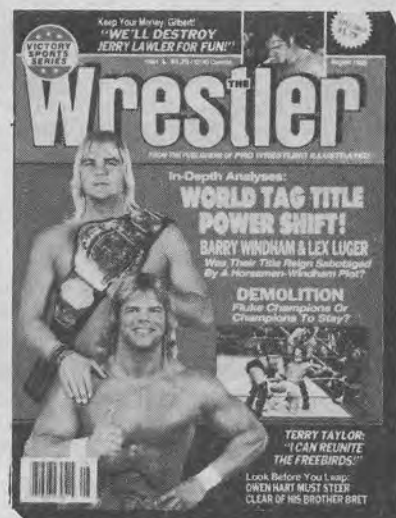
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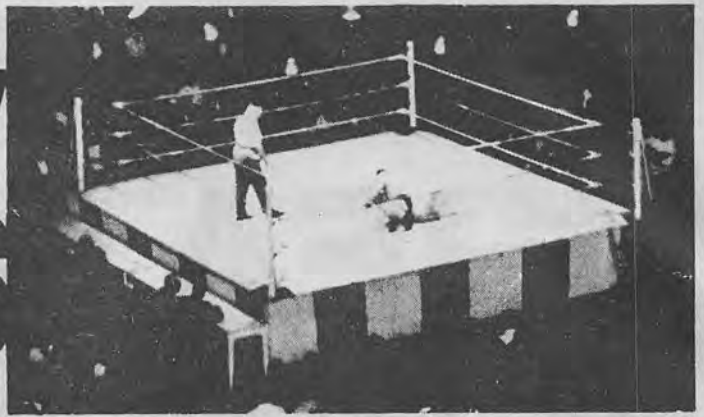
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SEND LETTERS TO:

# SINCERELY YOURS

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Jerry Lawler blasts Curt Hennig in the mid-section. Reader Bruce Miller is dismayed by AWA champion Lawler's tactics.

## WHEN WRONG IS RIGHT

As more and more titles have been changing controversially, I felt I had to write. Don't get me wrong: I don't bemoan controversy *or* title changes. They are both so critical both to wrestling and the excitement of the game.

What I do condemn, however, is the way these titles often change hands. And I'm not even talking about managerial interference. I'm talking about something so shocking, it makes me question the values I try to uphold. I'm talking about when good and evil are no longer opposites. I'm talking about when the roar of screaming fans means nothing. Yes, I'm talking about rulebreaking.

I don't mind rulebreakers; their very existence provides me with the venom

necessary to enjoy the exploits of my favorite stars. But there's a problem here. I can't tell anymore who are my favorites and who are the rulebreaking scourge that I detest.

Recently, Jerry Lawler won the AWA title from Curt Hennig. Of course, I was pleased, but then I realized that this is the same Jerry Lawler who often punches with a closed fist and even used a foreign object in a title-defending win over Bill Dundee. Again, I love the competitive fury, but patently condemn the hypocrisy when a man like Lawler uses the double-standard to his advantage. Randy Savage is another good example.

I'm not asking for much; I just want to *believe* in my heroes.

BRUCE MILLER  
Memphis, TN

## FORMIDABLE FOURSOME

After watching Barry Windham win the U.S. title tournament here in Houston, I have to finally admit to myself that The Four Horsemen are unbeatable. Even when they're not interfering from the ring apron, they still stick together better than any collection of talent I've ever seen. History will show that Windham made a good career move in joining the Horsemen; at least now he has friends who'll stand by him.

The best example of Horsemen teamwork was the title tourney itself. During his match with Nikita Koloff, Tully Blanchard repeatedly went after Nikita's left leg, injuring it so that Nikita would be unable to beat Windham. It's like a sacrifice bunt in base-

(Continued on page 62)



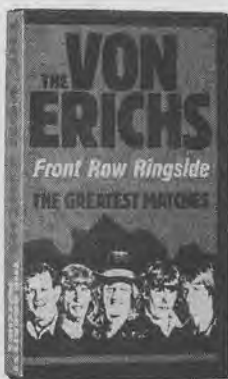
It's interview time for The Four Horsemen, who have proved that they are the greatest collection of talent in the sport today, according to reader Lisa Simon. In particular, she applauds Barry Windham's decision to join the group, and the way that all the Horsemen stick up for one another.





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- The entire May 6, 1984, bout in which Kerry Von Erich captured the NWA World title from Ric Flair at Texas Stadium in front of 43,518 fans.
- Highlights of Mike Von Erich's November 24, 1983, debut match against Gen. Skandor Akbar, and a battle against John Tatum.
- Rare footage of Chris Von Erich; Fritz vs. Joe Blanchard; David spanking Sunshine; six-man action featuring Mike, Lance, & Kevin, and David, Kevin, and Kerry; and Mike's hospitalization from toxic shock syndrome.

**THE VON ERICHS: A FAMILY ALBUM** is a magnificent history of the *entire* Von Erich family in words and pictures. Subtitled "Tragedies And Triumphs Of America's First Family Of Wrestling," the book chronicles Fritz, Doris, Kevin, David, Kerry, Mike, and Chris—plus rare photos of Jack—in over 100 black-and-white photographs and 32 pages of dazzling color photography. Many of these photos are from the Von Erich personal family scrapbooks (including many baby photos and school portraits) and have *never* been published anywhere—until now! This beautifully designed hardcover volume measures 8½x11 and is 128 pages in length. You'll be proud to add this to your personal library.



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# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Stu  
Saks

Editor-in-Chief

Bobby Fulton and Tommy Rogers did not object to the story we allowed Jim Cornette to write for this issue. On the contrary, Fulton said, "The Fantastics enjoyed it very much."

"Best laugh we had in a long, long time," said Fulton after I read the manager's story to the U.S. tag team champions over the phone.

Rarely will Inside Wrestling print such an unsubstantiated story as Jim Cornette's "The Fantastics Begged Me To Manage Them!" Anyone with any touch with reality can see that Cornette's words are the ravings of a spiteful, insanely jealous liar. His claims about The Fantastics are patently ridiculous. But while Cornette's words are not worthy of print as such, they do tell us a great deal about Cornette as a person. And that, in view of the power that this man wields, we deemed newsworthy.

"That he would go so far out of his way to try to discredit us in this manner," Fulton said, "speaks volumes about his personality."

Indeed. What Cornette was attempting to do was to damage The Fantastics' reputation by making them look like wimpering cowards. "If we thought for a second that anybody would believe this," Fulton said, "we might object to such lies being printed, but all this story does is show Cornette up for the jerk that he is."

Ordinarily, we will not make stories available to the wrestlers before they are printed and on the newsstands. This policy is necessary to prevent the subjects of controversial articles from trying to intimidate our reporters into withholding important information. In this particular case, however, since the story was an obvious series of lies, and since there was no place within the story for the subject of those lies to respond, we made an exception.

"Print it," Fulton said. "Let the fans enjoy it, too."





# TOP SECRET

## Behind the Dressing Room Door

by **David  
Rosenbaum**

*Happy Anniversary to you!  
Happy Anniversary to you!  
Happy Anniversary to The Honky  
Tonk Man!*

*Happy Anniversary to you!*

**T**HIS COLUMN IS being written on June 2, 1988, one year to the day after The Honky Tonk Man won the WWF Intercontinental title by defeating Rick Steamboat at Memorial Auditorium in Buffalo, New York. And by the time this issue of *Inside Wrestling* hits the newsstands, our hero from Memphis will be on the verge of becoming the longest reigning I-C champ ever.

August 2 is the target date.

Say goodbye, Pedro Morales!

Blow out the candles, Honky Tonk!

Despite his reign, Honky Tonk will go down in history as the most underrated I-C champ ever. He has never been rated higher than number 11 in *Inside Wrestling's* Top 15 ratings and has never broken the Top 10 in its sister publications. I thought I'd celebrate Honky Tonk's first anniversary by presenting a list of things that people thought he couldn't do, or wouldn't do, but did. Here goes:

- Score a clean pin over Rick Steamboat to win the I-C title.
- Retain the belt in several rematches against the highly talented "Dragon."
- Hold off the challenge of Randy Savage, who couldn't win the belt from Honky Tonk but did manage to win the WWF World title. (What does that tell you?)
- Put his reputation on the line by challenging Hulk Hogan to a title vs. title match, and then not back out after Hogan lost the World championship.
- Not back down to any chal-

*(Continued on page 58)*



# THE VIDEOTAPE EVENT OF THE YEAR!



## Slant-Eyed Slaughter

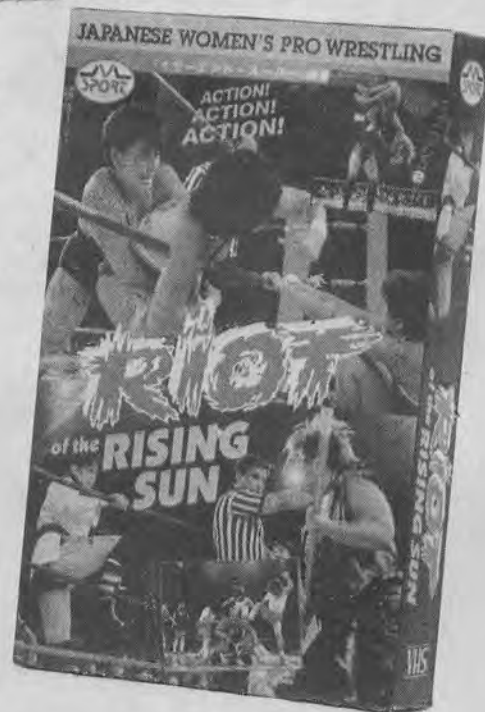
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- Wendi Richter & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Okumura
- Nancy Kumi vs. Lucy Kayama
- Monster Ripper & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Mimi Hagiwara
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Tarantula
- "Crush Girl" Lioness Asuka vs. "Crush Girl" Chigusa Nagayo

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## Riot Of The Rising Sun

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- Masked You & Kaoru "Dump" Matsumoto vs. Lioness Asuka & Chigusa Nagayo—"The Crush Girls"
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Las Galactia
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. "Devil" Masami

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I THINK THE time has come to make a confession. I'd hoped that I wouldn't reach this point, but the more I think about it, the more truth the confession seems to contain.

Wrestling bores me.

Not wrestling itself, mind you. But the *state* of wrestling.

And the sport is in a sorry state, indeed.

True to the name of this column, I actually did go on the road this month, only it had nothing to do with wrestling or the magazine publishing business. I went on vacation to Bermuda for a week, seeking a much-needed recharging of my batteries (my last real vacation was three years ago). I'd become burnt out and was, I thought, missing out on too much of the present excitement of the sport because of my own exhaustion. I needed to get away. I thought that by forgetting *entirely* about wrestling, I'd recapture a lot of the sport's excitement when I returned to the office.



Vintage Road Warriors: manhandling Jerry Lawler

Like I said in the paragraph before last, wrestling is in a sorry state, indeed. The athletes who used to excite me no longer capture my imagination.

The Road Warriors, by far my favorite tag team of all time, are being destroyed by the reluctance of NWA promoters to afford them the top matches they crave and the NWA World title bouts they deserve. I can't blame Hawk and Animal for fleeing to Japan, where their All-Japan International tag team belts are more respected and the match purses are significantly higher than here in the States. I just wish I could go back and relive the glory days of The Legion of Doom, circa 1984, once again.

Hulk Hogan has been dethroned in the WWF, but the lumbering shadow of his title reign has cast a dark pallor over the championship tenure of Randy Savage. No matter how good a champion he may be, no matter how fine a wrestler he is, no matter *what* he does in the defense of

## ON THE ROAD

with  
CRAIG PETERS

his World title, Savage simply cannot live up to the Hogan legend. Nobody can. Hogan's stamp of approval on Savage only serves to homogenize the "Macho Man's" own reign. Savage was awesome when he was hungry for the title; his complacency now that he wears the belt is, to say the least, disheartening.

I can't begin to count the number of breathtaking matches I've seen Ric Flair compete in. I recall one-hour draws against Greg Valentine that seemed to pass in a matter of just a few minutes; classic cage encounters against Harley Race; months in which

the champion would defend against top stars in Texas, Hawaii, Missouri, Florida, the Carolinas, Japan, Oklahoma, Canada, and Virginia—then go back and do it all over again! Today, the cooperative known as The Four Horsemen has obliterated Flair's excellence, and the promotional changes of the sport over the past few years have obliterated the concept of a traveling champion. These days, the challengers have to come to Flair if they want that shot at the gold.

I miss the Warriors of old, the Savage of yesteryear, the Flair of the early '80s. I don't like where wrestling is going in general. The Horsemen bore me, the "new" Savage bores me, and not seeing the Warriors in action makes *everything* that much more boring.

Bam Bam Bigelow seemed like he would be the sport's savior, but that hasn't happened. Where's Nikita Koloff's career going? Kerry Von Erich's injuries and his family's tragedies have taken too much momentum out of the Texas mat wars. Demolition and The Honky Tonk Man? Don't make me laugh.

Okay, not *everything* is boring. There are a *few* things that interest me—a bit. In spite of it all, there are, I admit, a couple of bright lights on the horizon:

Sting's 45-minute draw with Flair at the Clash of the Champions may not have won him the NWA World title, but it did cement his reputation as one of the sport's true up-and-comers. His "stinger splash" maneuver is formidable, his scientific skills seem to improve with each passing day, and his aerial attack is as powerful as they come. Another year of grooming and this man could rule the sport like no other before him.

Owen Hart could set new standards of excellence for *everyone* in the sport. Like Sting, though, he's still in need of grooming—and he's far more than one year away from approaching his peak. I give him until 1992 until he really gets going.

Okay, that's two. But I pose the question: Where are tomorrow's champions coming from? I don't see a whole hell of a lot of talent out there. I hope that there's some in training, though, ready to burst on the scene like the Warriors did in '83 and turn the sport on its proverbial cauliflower ear. The sport needs it. Desperately.

Or maybe it's me. Maybe there's a changing of the guard going on in the sport. Maybe yesterday's excitement is simply giving way to tomorrow's thrills. Maybe I should give Bigelow and Ultimate Warrior and Owen and Sting and the new Savage and everyone else more of a chance than I'm giving them. Maybe I'm just unwilling to let go of the past.

Or maybe I just need another vacation. □





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# NAMES MAKING

After a nearly five-month absence from the mat wars, former UWF heavy-weight champion **Big Bubba Rogers** has resurfaced as **Big Boss Man** in the WWF. Rogers was originally scheduled to arrive in the WWF in January, but encountered a series of complex contractual difficulties.

Rogers, who also served as **Jim Cornette's** bodyguard in the NWA, apparently worked as a prison guard before becoming a wrestler. Rogers and WWF officials refused to elaborate



**BIG BUBBA ROGERS**

on this aspect of his past, but *Inside Wrestling* contacted Cornette to gain some more insight into Bubba's past.

"When I hired Bubba, I had Mama's gumshoes do some investigating into his past," Cornette told us. "There's a lot of skeletons in his closet, and I'd prefer to leave them there because he was too stupid to know a good thing when he had one in working for me. But there were a lot of gaps in his past, and it wouldn't surprise me at all if he was a prison guard; probably got promoted from being a prisoner, if you ask me."

Rogers has made it clear that he wants a shot at WWF World champion **Randy Savage**, but he'll probably have to prove himself first against lesser competition. There's also the possibility that Rogers will resume his feud with **One Man Gang**, another former UWF champion. Rogers won the belt from Gang in 1987 after **Gen. Skandor Akbar**, Gang's manager at the time, bought Bubba's contract shortly before their match.

What's going on with **Precious**? She recently came to ringside with **Kevin Sullivan** before getting ushered away by **Jim Garvin**. Precious appears to be rather confused right now, and Garvin admits that he doesn't know what to do about it. "It's rather frightening, you know," Garvin said . . . **Bobo Brazil** recently made a return to the ring and won an 18-man battle royal on a benefit card for underprivileged children in Dearborn Heights, Michigan. Also on the card: **The Fabulous Kangaroos—Al Costello** and **Don Kent**—reunited and defeated **The Flying Tigers**.



**THE FABULOUS KANGAROOS**



**THE FANTASTICS**

"Getting together again and wrestling once more was simply marvelous," said Costello . . . **Hulk** and **Linda Hogan** celebrated the birth of their first child on May 5, a 10-pound, one-ounce girl named **Brooke**.

**The Fantastics** have already gained some measure of revenge against **The Midnight Express** for manager **Jim Cornette's** article in this issue (see page 30). In an unusual "losers get 10 lashes each" match in Greensboro, North Carolina, **Bobby Fulton** pinned **Bobby Eaton** after ducking a Cornette punch. Eaton and teammate **Stan Lane** took their lashes, but Cornette ran away after two lashes.

"He can run but he can't hide," **Tommy Rogers** said. "Cornette was the one we wanted to get, but worms have a way of sliding away just when you think you have them. But in my mind, only one thing is important: We have the U.S. belts, and they can't get them from us—especially with that jerk as a manager."



# N' NEWS

Bill Apter  
reporting...

Despite badly stretched ligaments in his left leg, **Max Pain** continues to go after CWA champion **Brickhouse Brown** in an attempt to regain the belt. Pain was forced to forfeit the title to Brown on May 23 after getting attacked by Brickhouse and **The Cuban Assassins** during a "Renegade Rampage" match against **Scott Steiner**. Pain was scheduled to wrestle Pain later in the evening, but was too badly injured. He managed to appear for a rematch the following week, but came to the ring on crutches with **Bill Dundee**. Once again, however, the Assas-



**BRICKHOUSE BROWN**

sins joined Brown and played a major part in the match. While Brickhouse distracted the referee, the Assassins attacked Pain. But Pain broke loose when Dundee tossed him his crutch. Pain was disqualified for using the crutch, though he did manage to send the Assassins and Brown fleeing back to the dressing room.



**BRIAN PILLMAN**

World Class officials have ruled that **Terry Gordy**, **Iceman Parsons**, and **Buddy Roberts** are still the six-man tag champs, although Gordy has left the team to join **Michael Hayes**. Parsons and Roberts will be allowed to use a substitute partner during title defenses ... **Austin Idol** has refused two generous offers from manager **Paul E. Dangerously** and is now feuding with **Eddie Gilbert**. Dangerously managed Idol in Memphis last year ... **Brian Pillman**, one-half of Stampede International tag team champs Bad Company with **Bruce Hart**, was sidelined for three weeks when he injured his right bicep in a match against **The Cuban Assassin** and **Jerry Morrow**.

The Triple Dome of Terror has become a fixture in the World Class area. Another Texas Roundup was held in Ft. Worth, Texas, and this time, **Samoan Samu**, **Eric Embry**, and

**Steve Casey** were the winners. In a special one-on-one match in the Triple Dome, **Shaun Simpson** defeated **John Tatum**. The NWA has several matches similar to the Triple Dome scheduled for its Great American Bash tour this summer.

AWA broadcaster **Lee Marshall** is well-known outside the mat sport. He also manages a Gold's Gym in California and does the Los Angeles Dodger cable broadcasts with **Bud Furillo**. Marshall is also the host of "Dodger Talk" on ABC radio in Los Angeles.

Finishing off on a sad note this month: Former Australian and British



**FRED ATKINS**

Empire champion **Fred Atkins** died on May 14 at the age of 77. Atkins wrestled in over 5,000 matches worldwide during his career. He retired in the late 1960s to become a referee and also worked as a physical trainer with the National Hockey League's Buffalo Sabres.

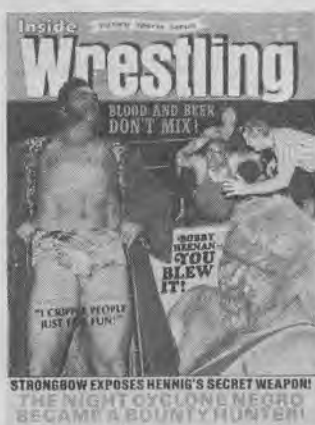
That's all for now, fans! See you at the matches! □

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## JULY 1974

**July 1974**/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.  
**September 1974**/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.  
**November 1974**/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.  
**August 1975**/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.



## SEPTEMBER 1975

**September 1975**/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.  
**February 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.  
**March 1976**/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

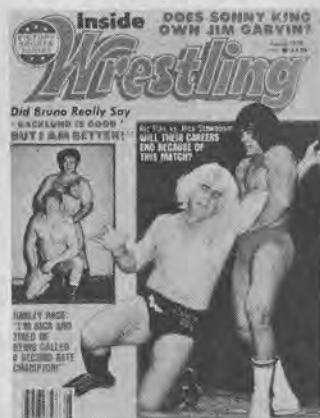
**April 1976**/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.  
**August 1976**/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.  
**September 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.  
**October 1976**/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.  
**November 1976**/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.  
**December 1976**/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.  
**January 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.  
**August 1977**/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.  
**September 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.  
**October 1977**/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.  
**November 1977**/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.  
**December 1977**/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.  
**March 1978**/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.  
**April 1978**/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.



## OCTOBER 1978

**October 1978**/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.  
**November 1978**/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.  
**December 1978**/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.  
**January 1979**/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.  
**February 1979**/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

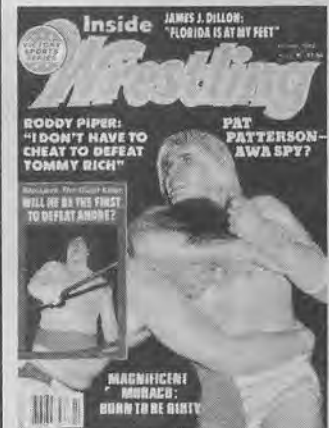
**April 1979**/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.  
**June 1979**/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.  
**July 1979**/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.



## AUGUST 1979

**August 1979**/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.  
**September 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.  
**February 1980**/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.  
**April 1980**/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.  
**May 1980**/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.  
**June 1980**/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.  
**August 1980**/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.  
**September 1980**/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.  
**November 1980**/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.  
**January 1981**/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.  
**April 1981**/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.  
**May 1981**/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.  
**June 1981**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.  
**September 1981**/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.  
**January 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.  
**February 1982**/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

**March 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.  
**April 1982**/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.  
**May 1982**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.  
**June 1982**/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.  
**July 1982**/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.  
**August 1982**/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.  
**September 1982**/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.



## OCTOBER 1982

**October 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.  
**November 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.  
**December 1982**/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.  
**February 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.  
**March 1983**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.  
**April 1983**/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.  
**May 1983**/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.  
**June 1983**/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.  
**July 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.  
**August 1983**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.  
**September 1983**/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.  
**October 1983**/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.



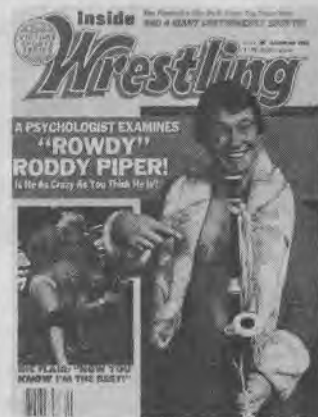
**November 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erch, Dillon.  
**December 1983**/Stories include: Von Erch, Samoans, Aliant, Road Warriors.  
**March 1984**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhode, Garvin.  
**April 1984**/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.  
**May 1984**/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erch.  
**June 1984**/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Corne, DiBiase.  
**July 1984**/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling!.



## AUGUST 1984

**August 1983**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magn.T.A., Idol, Spoiler.  
**September 84**/Stories include: Martel, Brody, V Erch, Iron Sheik.  
**October 19**/Stories include: Billy Jack, Roadwarriors, Steamboat, Piper.  
**November 84**/Stories include: Rhodes, R Hernandez, Warriors.  
**December 84**/Stories include: Hogan, Warrick Sullivan, Magnum T.A.  
**January 11**/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhod Atlas, Von Erch.  
**February 15**/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Vat, Flair.  
**March 19**/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, offs, Von Erichs.  
**April 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hc, Steamboat, Gordy.  
**May 1985**/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Allo, Koloffs.

**June 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.  
**July 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erch, Nikita, Warriors.  
**August 1985**/Stories include: Wrestlingmania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.



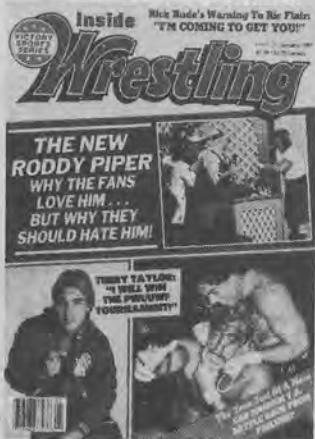
## SEPTEMBER 1985

**September 1985**/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.  
**October 1985**/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.  
**November 1985**/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.  
**December 1985**/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.  
**January 1986**/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erch, Warriors.  
**February 1986**/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.  
**March 1986**/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors-Russians, Rude.  
**April 1986**/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts.  
**May 1986**/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Rolls.  
**June 1986**/Stories include: Bulldogs, Windham-Flair, Lance Von, Blanchard.  
**July 1986**/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, T.A.  
**August 1986**/Stories include: Wrestlingmania 2, Garvins, Martel, Fab Ones.  
**September 1986**/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes-T.A., Adams, Windham.  
**October 1986**/Stories include: Flair-Lugar, Savage, Fantastics, Warriors.



## NOVEMBER 1986

**November 1986**/Stories include: Warriors-Flair, Bulldogs, Watts, Adams.  
**December 1986**/Stories include: Hogan-Adonis, R&R Express, Baby Doll.



## JANUARY 1987

**January 1987**/Stories include: Rude-Flair, Piper, T.A., Taylor.  
**February 1987**/Stories include: Hogan-Piper-Orndorff, Taylor, Flair.  
**March 1987**/Stories include: Flair, Missy, Luger, Bulldogs, Koloffs.

**April 1987**/Stories include: Windham, Steamboat, Ellering, Duggan.

**May 1987**/Stories include: Windham & Luger, Steamboat, Hogan-Andre.  
**June 1987**/Stories include: Piper-Adonis, Horsemen, Adams, Hall, Brody.  
**July 1987**/Stories include: Danny Davis, DiBiase, Rockers, Rotundo, Andersons.  
**August 1987**/Stories include: Dusty & Nikita, Hogan, Mike Von, Cornette.  
**September 1987**/Stories include: Hogan-Race, R&R Exp., Rich, Honky Tonk.  
**October 1987**/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Taylor-Adams, Lawler.  
**November 1987**/Stories include: War Games, Mr. T, Bulldogs, Rhodes.  
**December 1987**/Stories include: Freebirds, Rhodes, Magnum, Savage, Perez.  
**January 1988**/Stories include: R&R-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Garvin.  
**February 1988**/Stories include: Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn.  
**March 1988**/Stories include: Bigelow, Adams, Koloff, Honky Tonk, Freebirds.  
**April 1988**/Stories include: Luger-Flair, Ultimate Warrior, Andre-Hogan-DiBiase.  
**May 1988**/Stories include: Zbyszko, DiBiase, Warriors, Rockers, Fritz Von.  
**June 1988**/Stories include: Hogan-Savage-DiBiase, Kerry & Hayes, Sting.  
**August 1988**/Stories include: Savage, Missy Hyatt, Sting, Hayes, Honky Tonk Man.

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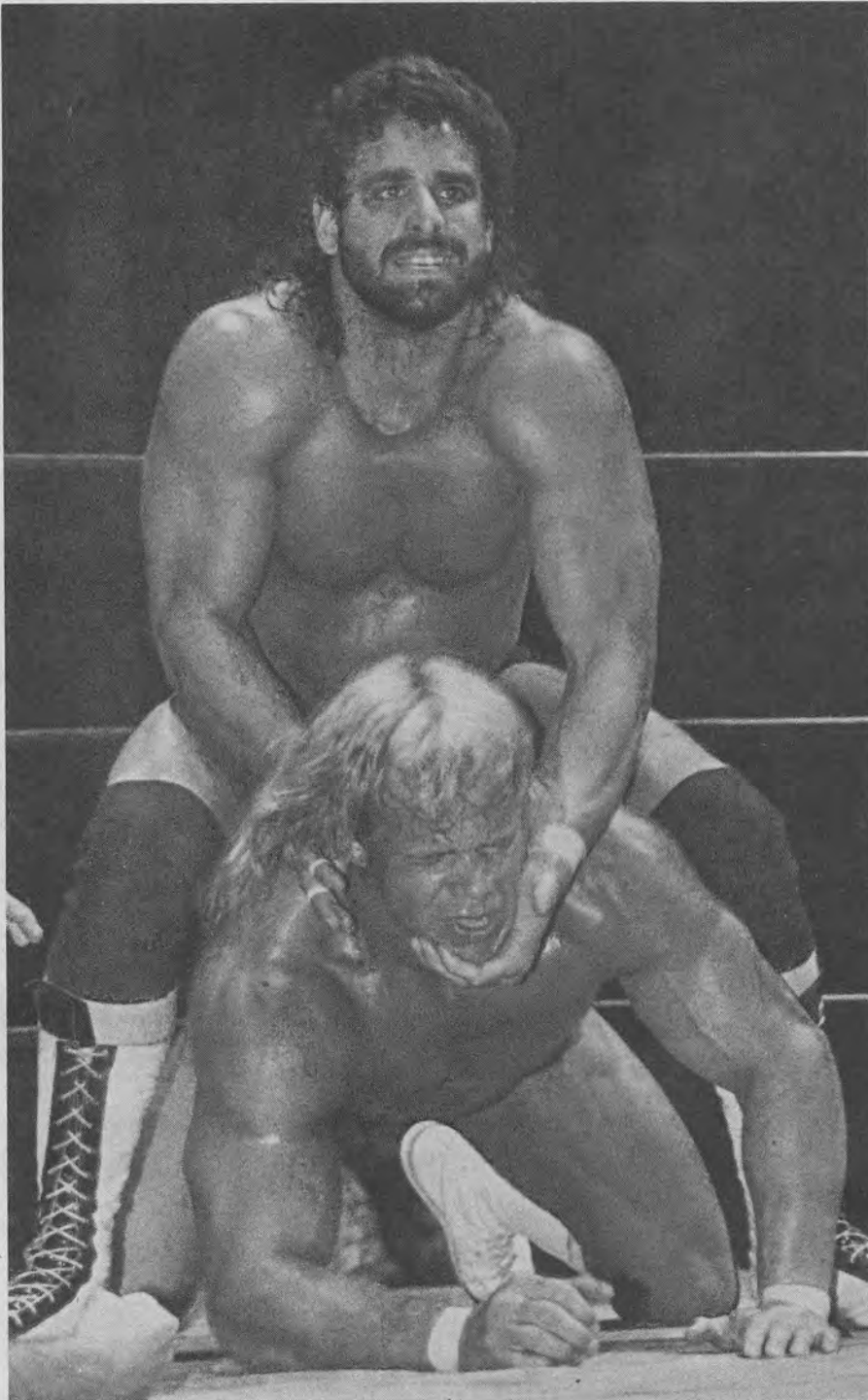
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THE

# INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner



Al Perez chinlocks Lex Luger. In Eddie Ellner's opinion, Perez's feud with Nikita Koloff is ill-advised. Ellner thinks Perez was better off when he was World Class champion.

*[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.]*

## NEWS ITEM: AL PERE DECLARES WAR ON IKITA KOLOFF

As career moves go, the one ranks alongside Dusty Rhodes' decision to open a chain of Slimnastic Centers around the country. Six months ago, Perez reigned as the undisputed World Class heavyweight champion. In terms of credibility, the WCW belt lies somewhere between the NWA belt and the *Inside Wrestling* office title, but that is the point. As champion, Perez accomplished what the Von Erichs never could—he established a prence of inviolable strength and domination. He restored the shine to a tarnished belt and lent class to a federation sorely lacking in

It was tragic, but not completely unexpected, that Perez lost his title to Kerry Von Erich. World Class is headquartered in Dallas, Kerry was in the midst of an inspired (if not foolhardy) comeback, and the Von Erichs are, after all, the Von Erichs. Somehow, matters of the ring magically and suspiciously seem to fall their way.

Al Perez was the better man and he lost. It happens every day. At least Perez and his manager, Gary Hart, had the foresight to stick around Texas seeking

*(Continued on page)*



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# A—ON— ASSIGNMENT

BY LIZ HUNTER

*Beep. Yes, you've reached me. No, I'm not home. Drop a word. Maybe, I'll call you back. Beep.*

ALL MESSAGES ARE not created equal. Take, for example, a recent day's sampling of phone calls I received on my answering machine.

*Beep.* "Lizzie? Lizzie, are you there? Why don't you answer me, Lizzie? Liz, this is your mother. Liz? Liz? Is something wrong? You're getting me worried. Please pick up the phone. Liz. Liz. Oh, oh, you!"

Modern technology has always baffled Mother. She still hasn't yet reconciled herself to the concept of remote-control television or aqua-colored contact lenses. But she's tough and determined, and, like insects, will survive long after we're all gone.

*Beep.* "Hello, Ms. Hunter. This is Mr. Taylor with the F.D. Roberts Credit Bureau. There appears to be a problem with your credit . . ."

The problem is with the darned postal system that can't seem to deliver my payments on time. Next message.

*Beep.* "Hello, Liz, baby. This is Al Perez. Call me back as soon as you get home."

Latin Lothario Al Perez? Calling *moi*? The handsome hunk must be getting ringsmart. Knows he needs all the publicity he can muster for his feud against Nikita Koloff. Does he imagine I'd drop everything to return his desperate phone call? The nerve.

*Beep.* "Liz? Liz Hunter? This is Barry Windham. U.S. Champion

Barry Windham. Call me back if you want a scoop."

I hadn't spoken with Windham in months. During our last interview, he had denied, emphatically, any possibility of his joining The Four Horsemen. So much for the integrity of our athletes. I decided to find exactly what Windham and his colleagues were planning.

"Hello."

"Hi."

"This is Liz, Barry. How are . . ."

"I'm not home at the moment, but if you'll leave your message at the tone I will call you back. Thank you."

Drats! Thwarted by a machine. I could imagine Barry and the Horsemen, sitting around, drinking champagne and counting money, and not taking any calls. Worse, laughing at everyone's messages.

"Listen, you goofballs, this is Liz Hunter and I know you're home. Pick up the darned phone. If you expect me to write a story, you had better pick up this . . ."

"Calm down, Liz," Windham laughed into the phone. "Take it easy."

"Why didn't you pick up the phone?"

"You take everything so personally," said the newest of The

*(Continued on page 50)*

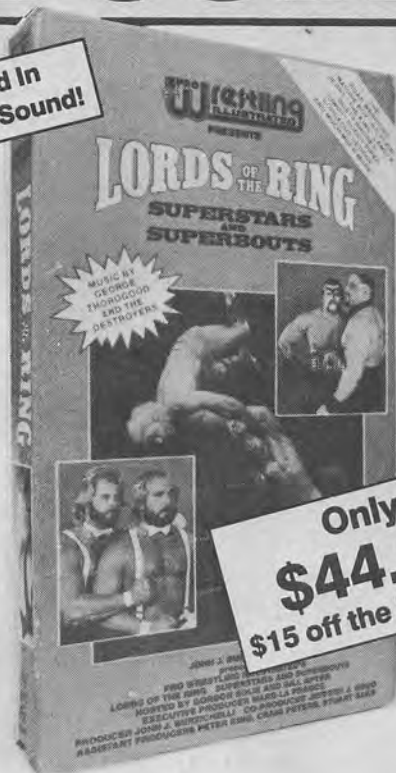


Barry Windham accompanies Ric Flair to the ring. The newest Horseman offered Liz Hunter an exclusive interview, but he really made her work for it.



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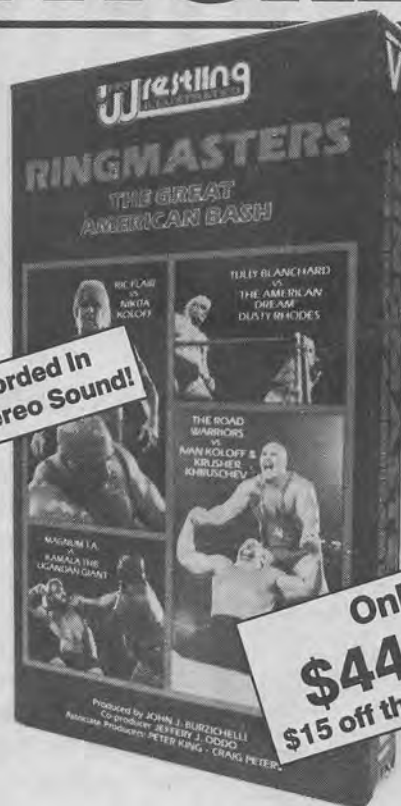
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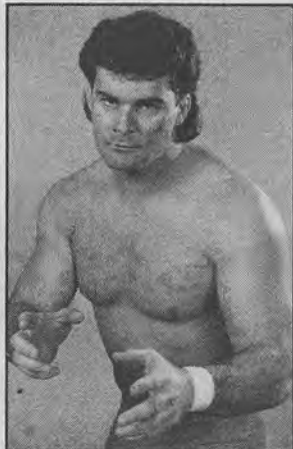
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# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

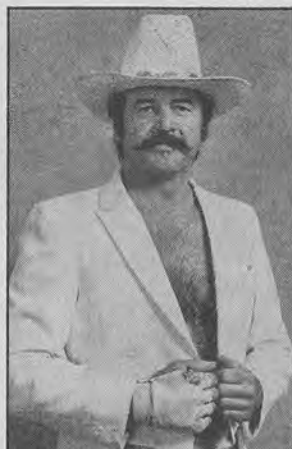
Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



## **BRIAN ADIAS**

Adias was one of the most hated men in World Class last year, using his dreaded "Asian spike" maneuver to injure Kevin Von Erich. Now he has decided to wrestle only occasionally, and works as an independent sales and marketing representative for several businesses in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. "I got a bum rap from World Class," said Adias. "I didn't deserve it, but I've got a fantastic mind. Now I'm using it to make my fortune!"

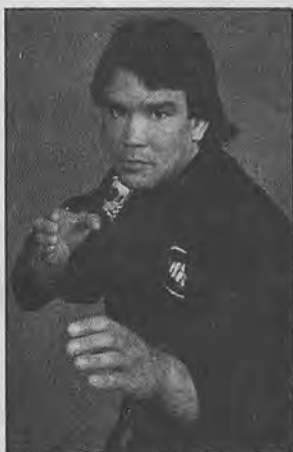
marketing representative for several businesses in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. "I got a bum rap from World Class," said Adias. "I didn't deserve it, but I've got a fantastic mind. Now I'm using it to make my fortune!"



## **BLACKJACK LANZA**

One of the most sadistic rulebreakers ever, Lanza used his clawhold to help him capture the WWF tag team title with Blackjack Mulligan in 1975, as well as the AWA tag team title with Bobby Duncum in

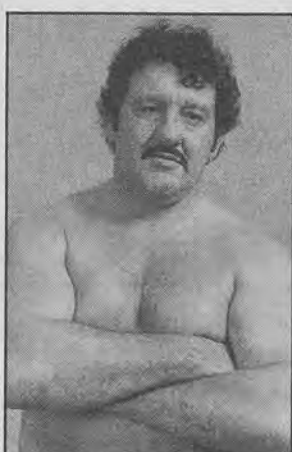
1976. He was managed by the infamous Bobby Heenan during his AWA tenure. Lanza currently works as an agent for the WWF, assisting in coordinating wrestling shows in arenas throughout the federation.



## **RICK STEAMBOAT**

The "Dragon" is currently on leave from the WWF, opting to spend time with his wife, Bonnie, and his new son, Richard, at their home in Charlotte, North Carolina. Steamboat has been tending to his famous

Steamboat's Gym in Charlotte, North Carolina, and has been flying to Los Angeles on the weekends, auditioning for several producers in hopes of landing a starring role in a major motion picture.



## **BILLY ROBINSON**

This popular English grappler, a perennial challenger to AWA champions Verne Gagne and Nick Bockwinkel throughout the 1970s, is considered one of the greatest scientific wrestlers of all time. Now retired from

wrestling, Robinson is busy with construction and electrical work in Minneapolis. He stays close to the sport by training wrestlers in his spare time and plans to return to the AWA for a few matches if his time permits.



# INSIDE WRESTLING

146

## CAPSULE PROFILE

**B**EFORE TURNING PROFESSIONAL, Mike Rotundo was an outstanding collegiate wrestler at Syracuse University, where he won the Eastern championship in 1981 (*"My success in college naturally carried over to the pros"*) ... Made his pro debut in Germany on September 22, 1981, defeating Wolfgang Saturski with an airplane spin, a move that would become his trademark (*"Because it combines speed and strength, the airplane spin is the best finishing maneuver I can think of"*) ... Wrestled in Canada early in his career, honing his considerable scientific skills (*"Nobody can beat me in a pure wrestling match"*) ... In Florida, teamed with Mike Davis to win the U.S. tag team title from One Man Gang and Ron Bass in 1983 ... Also won the Southern title from Bass twice (*"That cowboy was one of the toughest men I've ever faced"*) ... Met Barry Windham, and they quickly decided to form a tag team (*"We hit it off real well; we had that chemistry"*) ... Won the Florida title from Greg Valentine in a tournament final after Windham vacated the belt while wrestling in Japan ... Rotundo and Windham were two-time U.S. tag champions in 1984, defeating Bass and Black Bart both times (*"After a while, we knew that winning titles wouldn't be a problem"*) ... Were considered on their way to

## MIKE ROTUNDO

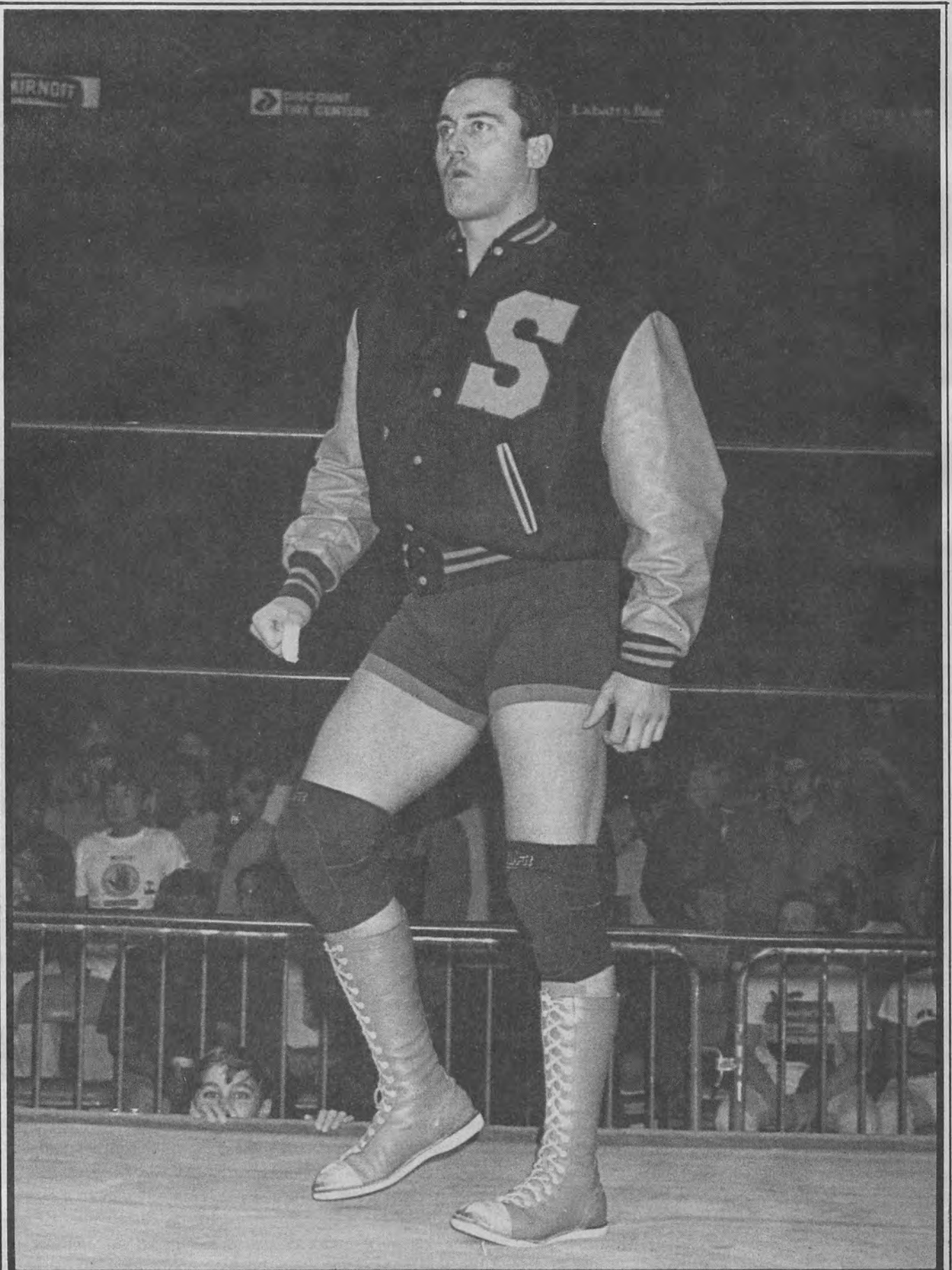


Mike Rotundo whips Sting across the ring. Rotundo was a well-liked and respected grappler—until he became a member of The Varsity Club with Kevin Sullivan. Now the former Syracuse star wrestles the kind of men he used to team with regularly.

winning the NWA World tag title when they surprisingly left for the WWF (*"At the time, we felt like it was the right move"*) ... Took Capt. Lou Albano as their manager, and on January 21, 1985, won the WWF World tag belts from Adrian Adonis and Dick Murdoch (*"It all came together pretty quickly"*) ... Lost the title to Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik at the first WrestleMania, but regained it two months later (*"We learned exactly how to deal with their dirty tricks"*) ... Another two months later, they lost the belts to Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake (*"Our team was finished then"*) ... After Windham returned to the NWA, Rotundo teamed with Dan Spivey for a short time

(*"Dan was a good partner, but it wasn't the same"*) ... Went back to Florida in 1987 and won the Florida title from Oliver Humperdink ... Late in 1987, Kevin Sullivan encouraged him to become a rulebreaker (*"He woke me up; my career was going down the dumpster"*) ... Soon after they formed "The Varsity Club" with Rick Steiner, Rotundo won the NWA TV title from Nikita Koloff (*"I outwrestled that Russian geek with no problem"*) ... In a display of solidarity, Rotundo gave his Florida title to Steiner (*"Rick will guard the title for me until I have more time to defend it; he's a loyal man"*) ... Has Rotundo been brainwashed by Sullivan? We may soon find out. □

## CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP

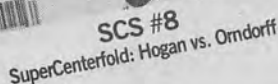


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## INDIANAPOLIS, IN By Greg Horoho



**DUSTY RHODES  
VS  
TULLY BLANCHARD**



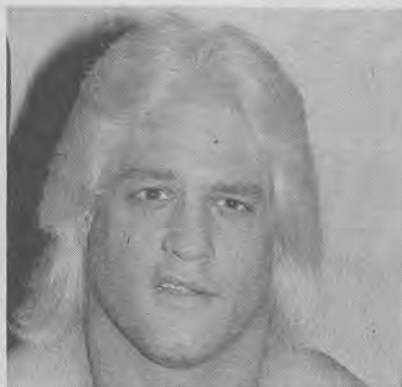
In this grudge match, the action started out fast and furious as Dusty took the early advantage. That soon changed when Tully hit Dusty with J.J. Dillon's shoe. As Dusty fell out of the ring, J.J. pummeled him on the arena floor. Tully then went after Dusty and they beat each other bloody. The referee counted them both out of the ring.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Jim Garvin beat Kevin Sullivan ... The Fantastics defeated The Midnight Express ... Steve Williams beat Arn Anderson ... The Road Warriors defeated Warlord & Barbarian ... Lex Luger & Nikita Koloff beat The Shepherders ... Ric Flair pinned Sting.

## HAZARD, KY By Brian Short



**DOUG FURNAS  
VS.  
BUDDY LANDELL**



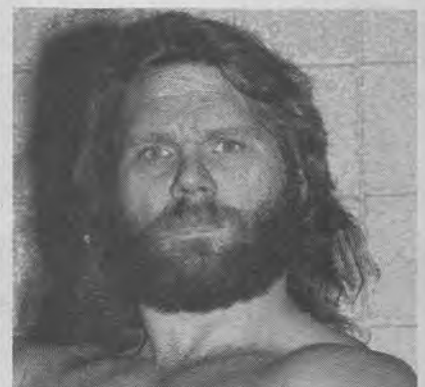
Landell put his Tennessee title on the line against former champion Furnas, who took initial control of the bout with a series of headlocks. Each time he got in trouble, Landell resorted to illegal tactics to shift the momentum. The match ended when Landell backflipped Furnas over the top rope, causing himself to be disqualified. Afterward, Landell attacked Furnas, but Furnas fought him off, grabbed the belt, and walked away.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Bill Dundee pinned The Shogun ... Cousin Junior beat The Dog ... Hector Guerrero pinned Scott Armstrong ... The Mongolian Stomper defeated The Bullet ... The RPMs beat The Party Boys.

## MILWAUKEE, WI By Andy Abrahamson



**ANDRE THE GIANT  
VS.  
HACKSAW DUGGAN**

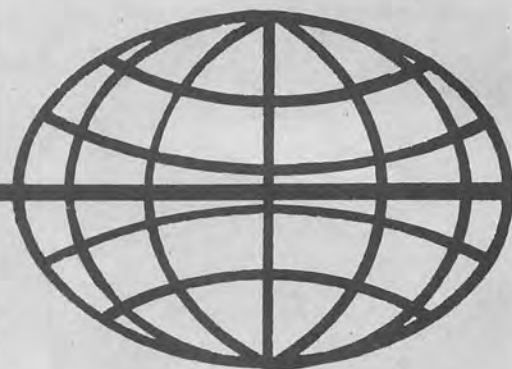


At the beginning of the match, Andre pounded Duggan with massive punches and powerful headbutts, but then Duggan gained the advantage. He went into his three-point stance and shoulderblocked Andre seven times before knocking him down. When Andre got up, he beat on Duggan and threw him out of the ring. They fought outside the ring until Andre struck Duggan with Duggan's 2x4. Andre reentered the ring and Duggan was counted out.

**OTHER BOUTS:** The Honky Tonk Man beat Brutus Beefcake by countout ... Jake Roberts pinned Greg Valentine ... The Islanders & Bobby Heenan defeated The British Bulldogs & Koko B. Ware ... The Rougeaus pinned The Killer Bees ... Scott Casey beat Iron Mike Sharpe.



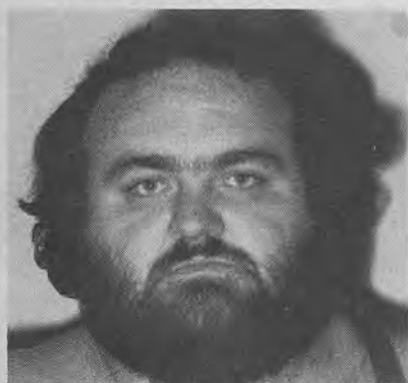
# WRESTLING CAPITALS



## CALGARY, ALBERTA By David Lucas



**OWEN HART  
vs.  
MAKHAN SINGH**



This match was for Owen's North American title. Singh was accompanied to the ring by manager Abdul Wize and bodyguard Vulkan Singh. Owen dominated in the beginning, using an amazing aerial attack. He tried to pin Singh with a sunset flip, but Makhana balanced himself with Wize's walking stick and sat on Owen for the pin. Referee Jurgen Hermann didn't see what had happened and refused to change his decision.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Yang Chung & Hashif Khan beat Jonathan Holliday & Biff Wellington ... Cuban Assassin & Jerry Morrow downed Randy Thatcher & Chris Benoit ... Kerry Brown beat Brick Bronsky by countout ... Bad Company beat Johnny Smith & Goldie Rogers ... Jason the Terrible defeated Steve DiSalvo by countout.

## MEMPHIS, TN By Sally Rickert



**JERRY LAWLER  
vs.  
BILL DUNDEE**



This was Lawler's first AWA World title defense and it was against a man who was, and still is, his friend. In the first few minutes, they wrestled cleanly, trying to maintain a scientific match. But they soon started using their fists and the action began getting dirty. The match ended when Lawler pulled a chain out of his tights, smashed Dundee with it, and got the pin.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Robert Fuller beat Jeff Jarrett ... Max Pain defeated Curt Hennig by DQ ... The Cuban Assassins and Ron & Don Harris were both DQ'd ... Gary Young drew with Scott Steiner ... Tommy Gilbert pinned Tom Brandi ... Billy Travis beat Doug Gilbert by DQ.

## DULUTH, MN By William Carrothers



**RANDY SAVAGE  
vs.  
TED DiBIASE**



Savage and DiBiase battled furiously for more than 10 minutes before the "Macho Man" was finally able to get DiBiase where he wanted him. As Savage was about to finish DiBiase off with a flying elbowsmash, Virgil distracted him. DiBiase was then able to get up and attack Savage from behind. Virgil draped Savage over the ropes so DiBiase could finish him off, but the "Macho Man" caused DiBiase to smash into Virgil by moving away at the last second. Savage then rolled up DiBiase for the three-count.

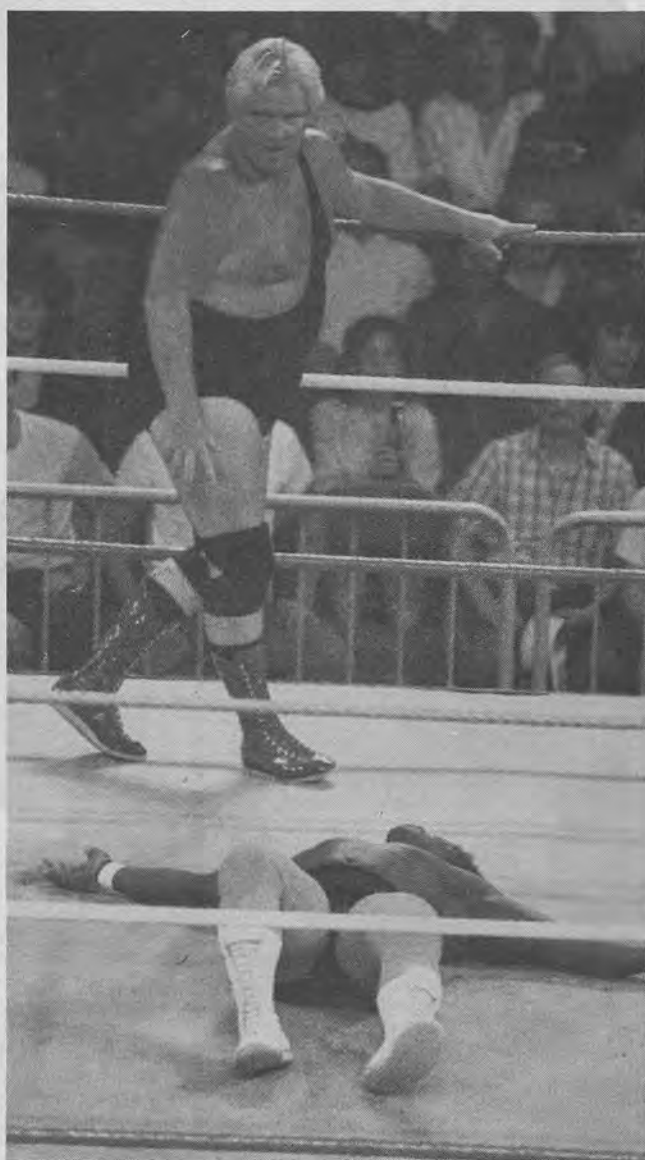
**OTHER BOUTS:** Brutus Beefcake beat The Honky Tonk Man by DQ ... Jake Roberts defeated Rick Rude ... Andre the Giant beat Hacksaw Duggan by countout ... Koko B. Ware pinned Bobby Heenan.



# Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

**HOUSTON, TX:** Anybody who's still wondering why The Four Horsemen dominate the NWA might want to look at the U.S. title tournament for an answer. They held a one-night tournament at the Sam Houston Coliseum to fill the title that was vacated when Dusty Rhodes was suspended for attacking Jim Crockett, and to nobody's surprise, Barry Windham was the winner. How he won, however, was the real story of the night. After defeating and unmasking The Midnight Rider (it turned out to be The Italian Stallion, although I don't think anybody honestly believes that's who it was all along) in the first round, Windham received a second-round bye when Al Perez and Lex Luger went to a double-disqualification. Tully Blanchard received a first-round bye and met Nikita Koloff in the second round. Nikita won the match, but the *real* winner was Windham. Here's why: Blanchard worked on Nikita's left leg the entire match, using the ringpost, the barrier around the arena floor, and several chairs. Nikita ended up winning after Dusty Rhodes and J.J. Dillon interfered, but before the final, Koloff had to have his left leg heavily bandaged up. This made Nikita easy prey for Windham, although Dillon lended a helping hand at the end. Koloff picked up Windham for a bodyslam, but Dillon tripped out Nikita's bad leg. Barry fell on top of Nikita and Dillon held Nikita's feet while the referee made the three-count. Now, Windham probably would've been able to beat Nikita without help, but Blanchard and Dillon made victory a certainty. Even by losing, Blanchard served his purpose. That's the way Dillon operates. It's disgraceful, but it works.

**DULUTH, MN:** If I'm Koko B. Ware, I'm embarrassed to be wrestling Bobby Heenan under any circumstances. I can understand why Koko might be upset about Heenan's comments about his bird, but that thing shouldn't be anywhere near the ring in the



**BOBBY HEENAN VS. KOKO B. WARE**

first place. It's a very disturbing aspect of wrestling in the 1980s. All of a sudden, wrestlers are allowed to bring their pets and girlfriends to the ring and nobody says a word about it. Damien should be



## Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

banned, Frankie should be banned, Matilda should be banned, and that wretched wench down in Alabama, Dirty White Girl, should be banned, too. After Koko beat Heenan, I was interested to see how he'd celebrate his victory, but I couldn't track him down. I wanted to find out if he thought beating Heenan brought him closer to winning the World title, and if not, what purpose it served. Wrestlers like Koko B. Ware have lost all direction because they're incapable of winning a major title. So, they content themselves with these little meaningless feuds. It's sad to see and a complete waste of time.

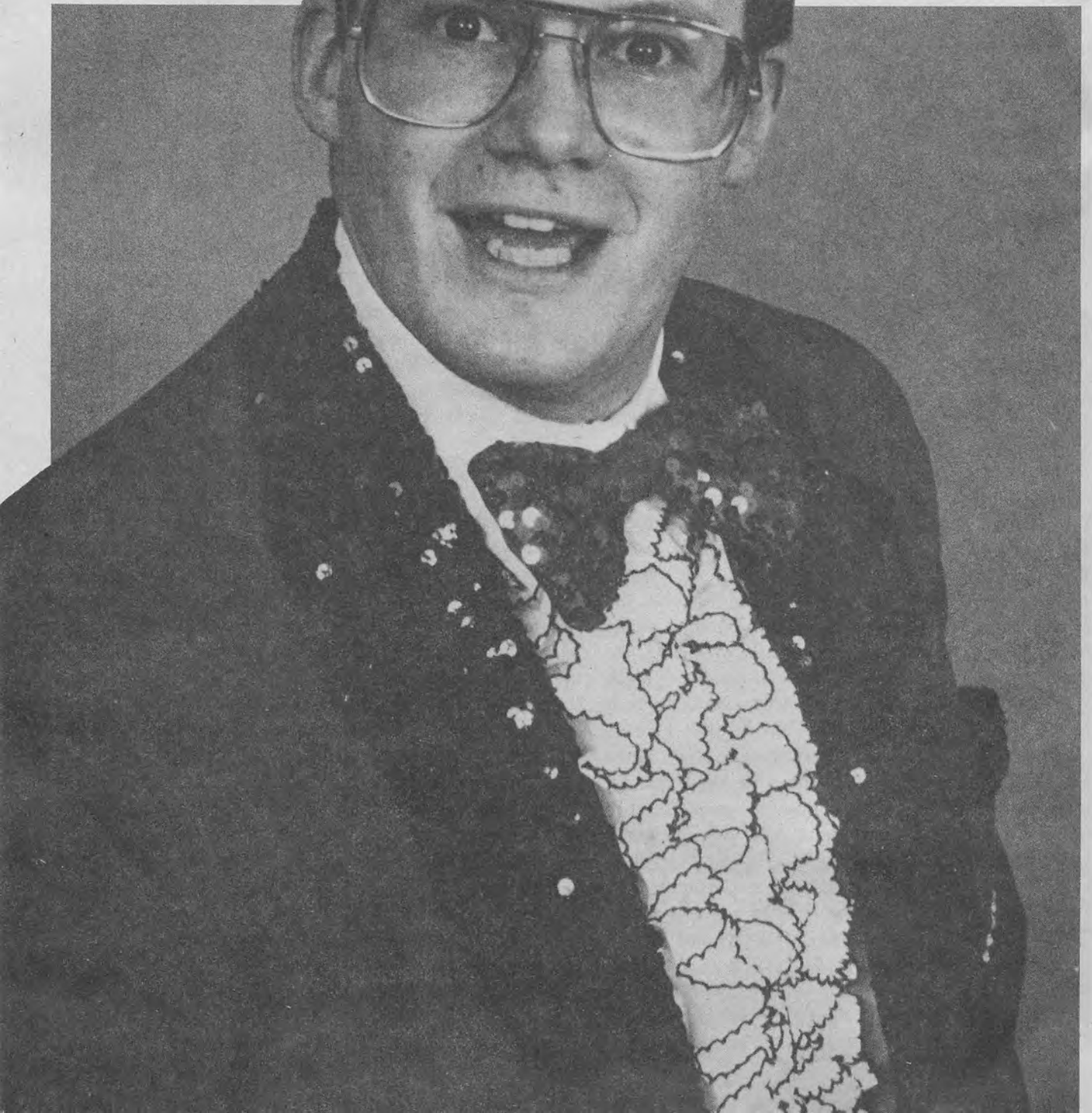
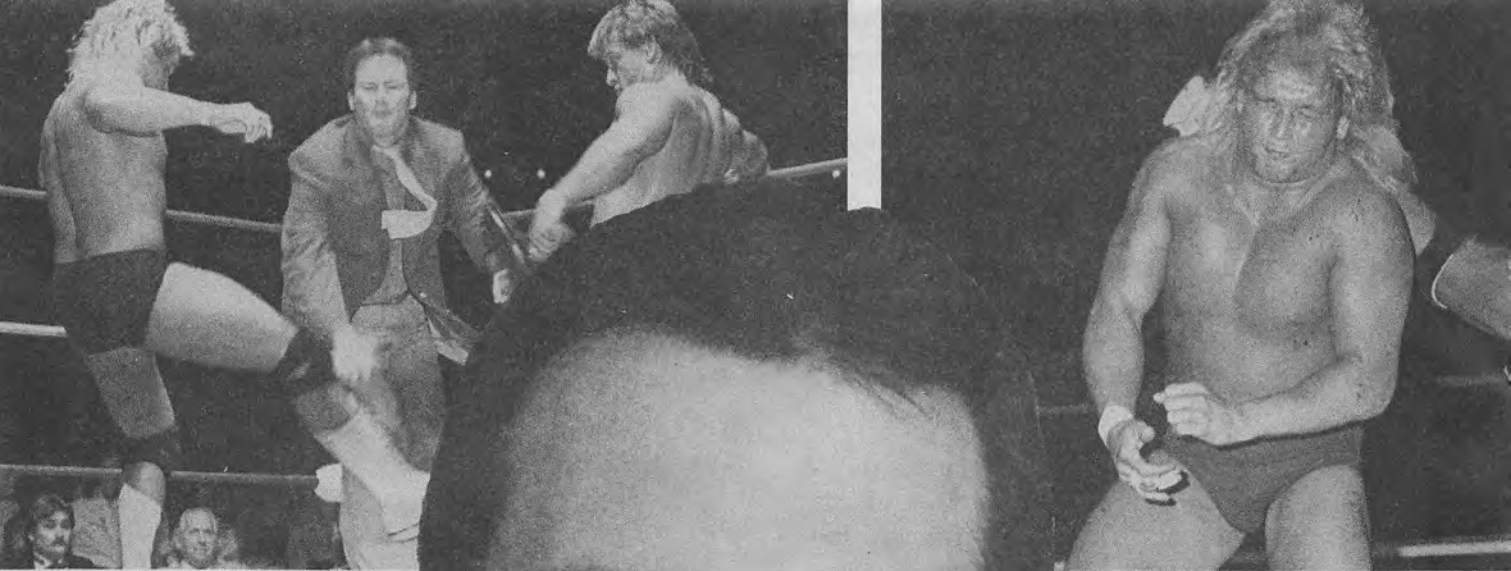
**MEMPHIS, TN:** I've seen them all since I started covering this racket about a hundred years ago, but for my money, Jerry Lawler can match up with anybody, including Flair, Hogan, Sammartino, and anyone else you can name. Whenever I say that, people ask, "So why hasn't he ever won a world title?" and the reason is simple: Lawler likes staying close to home. He's one of those guys who doesn't see why a person has to sacrifice his home life to be successful. We've had some long discussions on this matter. His thinking goes this way: *If I can stay in the Memphis area and win the World title, great. But I'm not going to chase it around the world.* Lawler, though, will be the first to tell you that the World title is very important to him. Winning it was at the top of his list of goals. That's why I had no doubt from the moment I entered the Mid-South Coliseum on May 9 that Lawler was going to beat Curt Hennig and win the AWA World title. First of all, you just don't beat Jerry Lawler on "Jerry Lawler Day," especially with about 10,000 screaming maniacs behind him. Second, Lawler vowed to retire if he didn't win the belt—and Lawler was *not* ready to retire. Hennig, however, is a fine wrestler (whether he's better than his father is debatable, but one thing is certain—Larry Hennig never won the World title) and he wasn't about to give up the belt without a fight. He had Lawler on the ropes several times and made him bleed pretty badly. But "The King" managed to fight back. He finally scored a clean pin after 21 minutes and 12 seconds of abso-



**CURT HENNIG VS. JERRY LAWLER**

lutely classic wrestling, and you had to hear the crowd noise when Lawler strapped the belt around his waist. A moment like this is a good reason why I've stayed in the sport so long. Lawler deserves to be World champion.

**CHICAGO, IL:** Needed a break so I headed back to "The Windy City" and ran into a bunch of old card-playing friends. They're all married and worn down while I'm a confirmed bachelor and worn down. I guess it's all the same. They've been worn down by their wives, I've been worn down by the road. The difference is that they have a place to go home to at night while I'm sleeping in a different hotel in a different city every night. But the thing I don't understand is why they feel they have to make me live their life when I'm never trying to make them live mine. I've never said, "Hey, Eddie, why don't you become a wrestling writer," but they're always saying, "Hey, Brock, when ya gonna get married?" They tried to do it again this time. Set me up with this old hag on the south side of Chicago. I tried to get out of it, but I couldn't. Took her to dinner and a movie, blew a week's worth of meal money, and ended up talking about her married sisters all night. Then when I tried to kiss her at the end of the evening, she reacted like I was Abdullah the Butcher with body odor. I'm going back on the road. The dating life isn't for me. □







The Fantastics kick their hated rival, Jim Cornette, in the groin (far left). Stan Lane gives Bobby Fulton a karate kick to the head (above left). Tommy Rogers dropkicks Bobby Eaton (above right). Cornette claims The Fantastics asked him to take control of their careers upon their entry into the NWA.

# "THE FANTASTICS BEGGED ME TO MANAGE THEM!"

By Jim Cornette

*[Editor's note: Recently, Jim Cornette, the infamous manager of The Midnight Express, contacted our offices, offering us what he termed "the story of a lifetime." After informing us what he wanted us to write about, none of the editors would allow the story to be printed as fact. Instead, we present Cornette's unedited account—in his own words. The opinions expressed herein are solely those of Cornette, and are by no means to be confused with those of Inside Wrestling or its editors.]*

LET'S GET SOMETHING straight right off the bat. I only agreed to do this feature for *Inside Wrestling* because Mama wanted me to. She thinks it's better for me to speak out about my frustrations; her analyst thinks it's very therapeutic. I still think *Inside Wrestling* is far too biased, but the editors do know a hot story when they hear one.

Mama's been pretty worried about my frame of mind ever since The Fantastics stole the belts from my Midnight Express during

that ridiculous match in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Never in my illustrious career have I seen such a conspiracy, but it won't do either The Fantastics or the NWA any good. You see, I've got the goods on *everybody*, especially those two pretty boys!

I know what you fans, all you junior high school dropouts, are expecting, too. You think I'm doing this just to complain about that horrifying match where the human highlight film of tag team wres-

*(Continued on page 52)*

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**We've heard some outrageous claims in our day, but when Jim Cornette, the manager of The Midnight Express, said that The Fantastics asked him to manage them, we had to give him a chance to explain himself!**

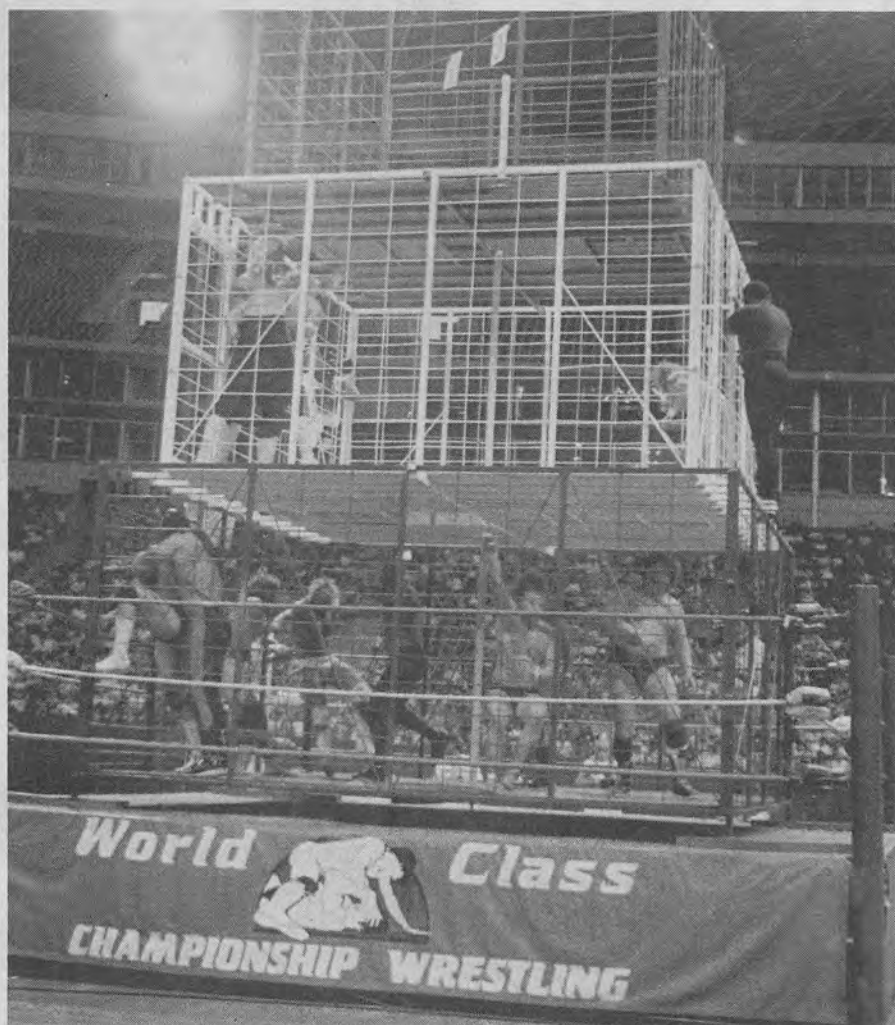
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# WrestleMania IV!

## Crockett Cup!

### Parade Of Champions!

# 45 DAYS OF GUTS AND GLORY!



Randy Savage exalts in the cheers of the crowd on his way to winning the WWF World championship (opposite page top). Sting and Lex Luger prepare to battle for the Crockett Cup (opposite page bottom); they won the \$1-million prize with the help of Magnum T.A. Seventeen World Class wrestlers slug it out in the Triple Dome of Terror (above), an unusual and dangerous contest that had never been seen before.

**M**EMORIES FROM AN incredible spring season:

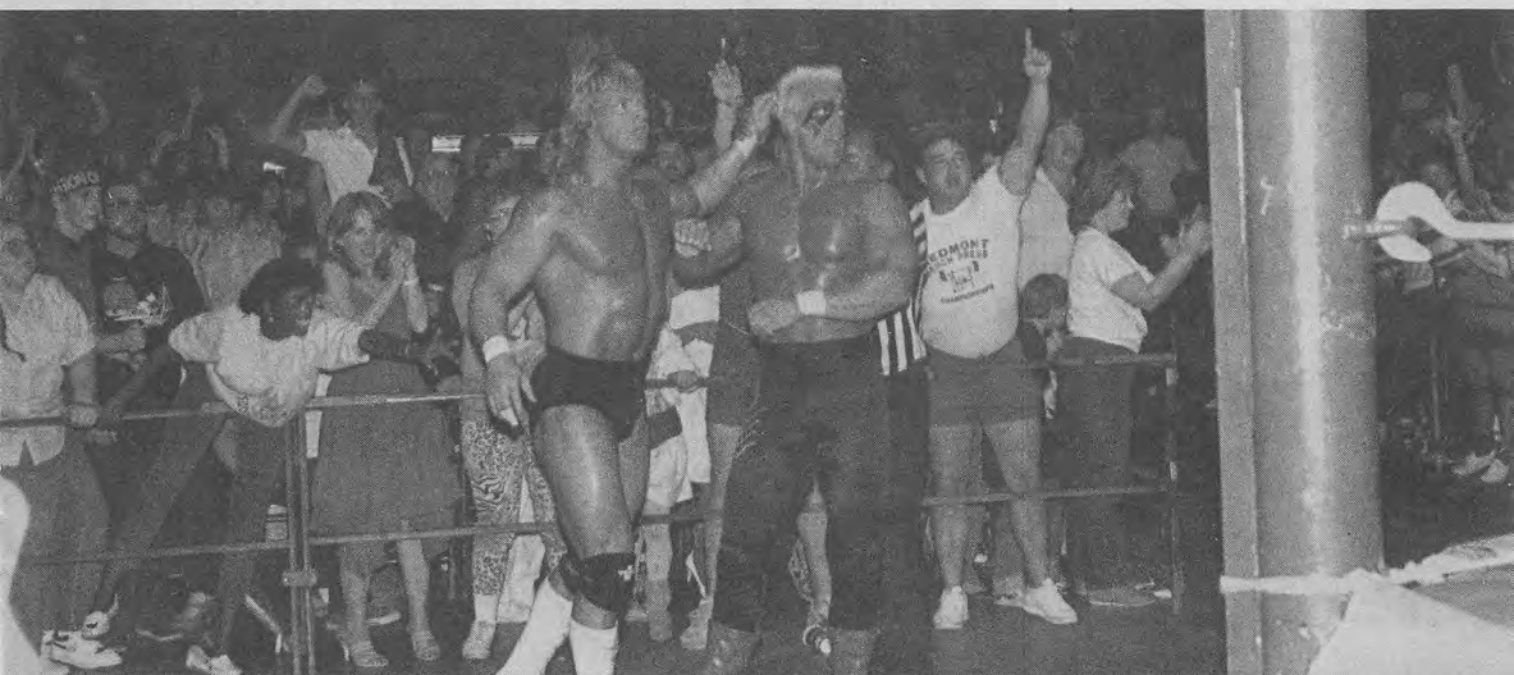
Randy Savage hoisting Elizabeth on his shoulders after winning the WWF World title tournament at WrestleMania IV, then celebrating the victory with former champ Hulk Hogan ... The noise of the crowd in the Greenville Coliseum when Sting and Lex Luger form a team for the \$1-million Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament ... The ecstasy on the face of Magnum T.A. after Sting and Luger win the Cup ... Another great Von Erich victory as Kerry captures the World Class title from Iceman Parsons at the fifth annual Parade of Champions.

From March 27 through May 8, the eyes of the sports world were focused on wrestling rings from Atlantic City, New Jersey (site of WrestleMania IV) to the Carolinas (site of the Crockett Cup) to Dallas (home of the Parade of Champions) as history was being made. For 45 days, the greatest wrestlers in the world dug deep, gritted their teeth, and showed that they had the guts necessary for a shot at glory, the kind of glory that can only be attained at the biggest cards of the year.

WrestleMania IV, which kicked off the season, was held at the Atlantic City Convention Center and made



**Randy Savage won the WWF World title! Kerry Von Erich won the World Class championship! Lex Luger and Sting won the Crockett Cup! And it all happened during an unforgettable 45-day spring season that was truly astounding!**



available to more than nine million pay-per-view households; a sellout crowd of nearly 20,000 fans was on hand, and hundreds of thousands more in the U.S. and Canada watched on closed-circuit TV.

Although WrestleMania IV certainly cannot live up to the greatest cards of all time, it will long be remembered for one reason: the World title tournament. Fourteen of the finest wrestlers in the WWF gathered for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: the WWF World championship was up for grabs!

There were several disappointing aspects of WrestleMania IV: After drawing 93,000 fans for WrestleMania III at the Pontiac Silverdome, the WWF decided to hold WrestleMania IV in a much smaller arena, thanks to multimillionaire real estate developer Donald Trump. The owner of Trump's Castle co-hosted the event, but actually used WrestleMania IV to draw people to his casino, thereby making gambling, not wrestling, the attraction. The card itself featured only one truly memorable match—the Randy Savage vs. Ted DiBiase final—and even that was tainted by Andre the Giant and Hulk Hogan's outside interference. And while the WWF put less emphasis on celebrities, the presence of Robin Leach, Vanna White, and Bob Uecker took away from the seriousness of the event.

On the positive side, WrestleMania IV put more emphasis on the *sport* of wrestling. Every major WWF star was on the card. There were two title changes: Savage won the tournament and Demolition won the World tag belts from Strike Force. And once again, WrestleMania IV displayed the incredible drawing power of pro wrestling. When promoted properly, wrestling ranks with the most popular sports in the world.

Perhaps that's the lesson that can be learned by comparing WrestleMania IV to the Crockett Cup. Although



Sting stops a kick from Arn Anderson as Tully Blanchard waits for the tag. For Sting, wrestling's spring season was a monumental success as he and Lex Luger captured the Crockett Cup—and a \$1-million prize!—by defeating Blanchard and Anderson in the final-round matchup in Greensboro, North Carolina.

the Crockett Cup undeniably had the better matches and—arguably—the better wrestlers, not too many people saw it. The Cup, one of the most important NWA events of the year, was not available on pay-per-view, closed circuit, or free TV. If you wanted to see it, you had to be there. The combined attendance for the two nights (April 22 in Greenville, South Carolina, and April 23 in Greensboro, North Carolina) was less than 15,000.

The Crockett Cup deserves better. Certainly, more people deserved to see Sting and Luger defeat Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson in an incredible final. More people de-

served to see The Fantastics beat Rick Steiner and Mike Rotundo in a 27-minute thriller, The Powers of Pain defeat The Road Warriors in a brutal brawl, and Nikita Koloff take Ric Flair to the limit for 30 minutes.

But the fans also deserved to see one or more non-NWA teams in this prestigious tournament. (There was one Japanese entry, but the wrestlers did not show up). They also deserved a tournament bracket that made sense; why did The Shepherders wrestle twice in the second round?

And finally, why can't such a potentially perfect concept be perfect?

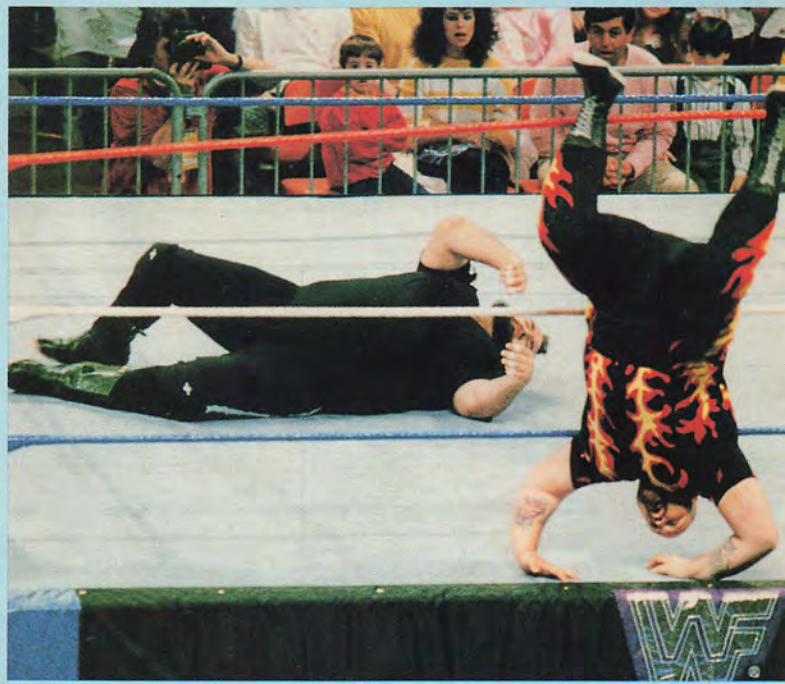
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# WrestleMania IV!



In first-round action at the WWF World title tournament, Rick Steamboat rams Greg Valentine's head into the turnbuckle (above) and One Man Gang dumps Bam Bam Bigelow over the ropes (right). Valentine and Gang advanced.



Jake Roberts armbars Rick Rude (above); they wrestled to a draw. Randy Savage executes his flying axhandle on Valentine (below) as he advances in the tournament.



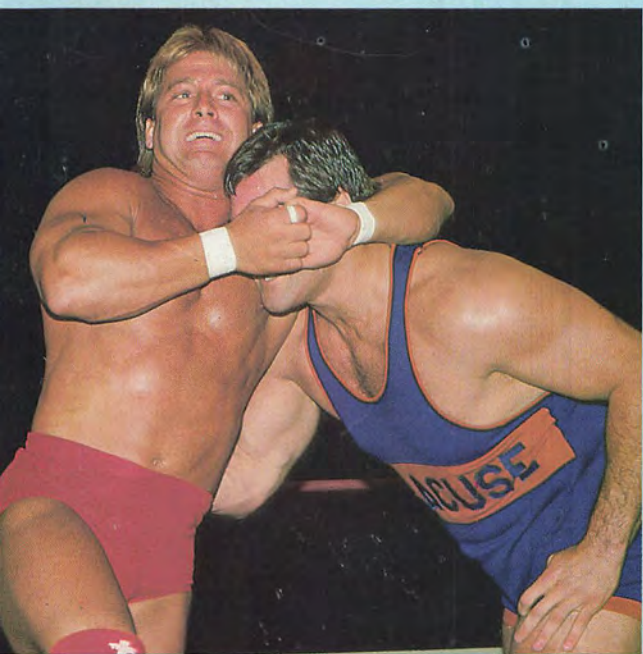
Andre the Giant hammers Hulk Hogan (above) on their way to a double-DQ. Savage pounds Ted DiBiase after a failed sunset flip (left); the "Macho Man" won the match and the title.



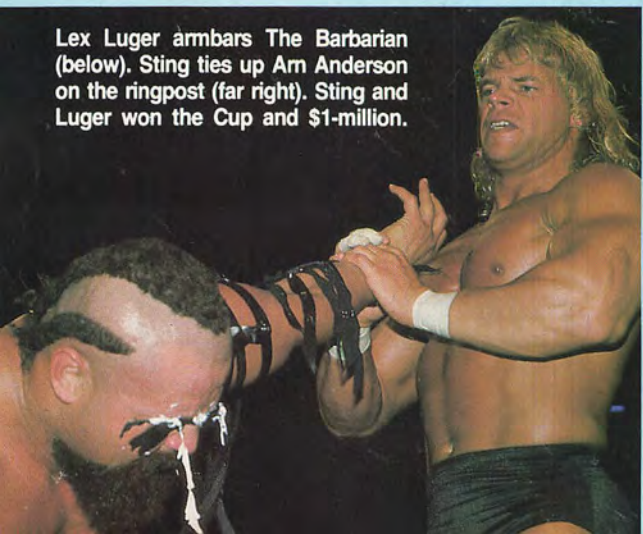
# Crockett Cup!



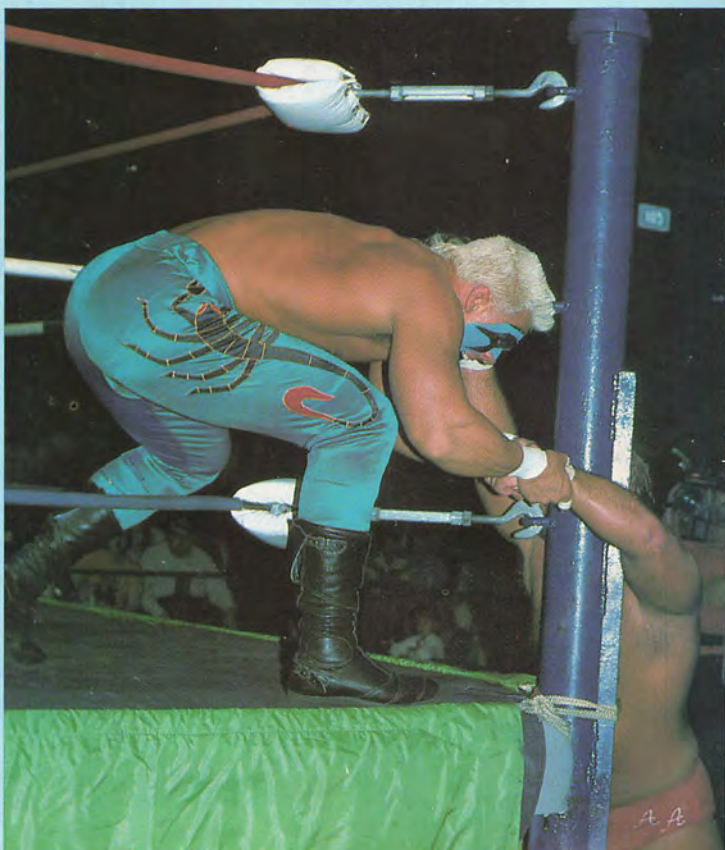
Al Perez and Larry Zbyszko whip Bobby Fulton across the ring (above). Tommy Rogers headlocks Mike Rotundo (below). The Fantastics won both matches.



Lex Luger armbars The Barbarian (below). Sting ties up Arn Anderson on the ringpost (far right). Sting and Luger won the Cup and \$1-million.



Stan Lane throttles Sheepherder Luke Williams (above); The Midnight Express won to advance to the second night. The Warlord bearhugs Road Warrior Hawk (right); the Warriors were disqualified for knocking out the referee.





# Parade Of Champions!



Jack Victory chinlocks Steve Simpson (above); he and John Tatum defeated Simpson and Terry Gordy. The "Triple Dome of Terror" (right) was an odd spectacle. Kevin Von Erich puts a chinlock and body scissors on Buddy Roberts (below).



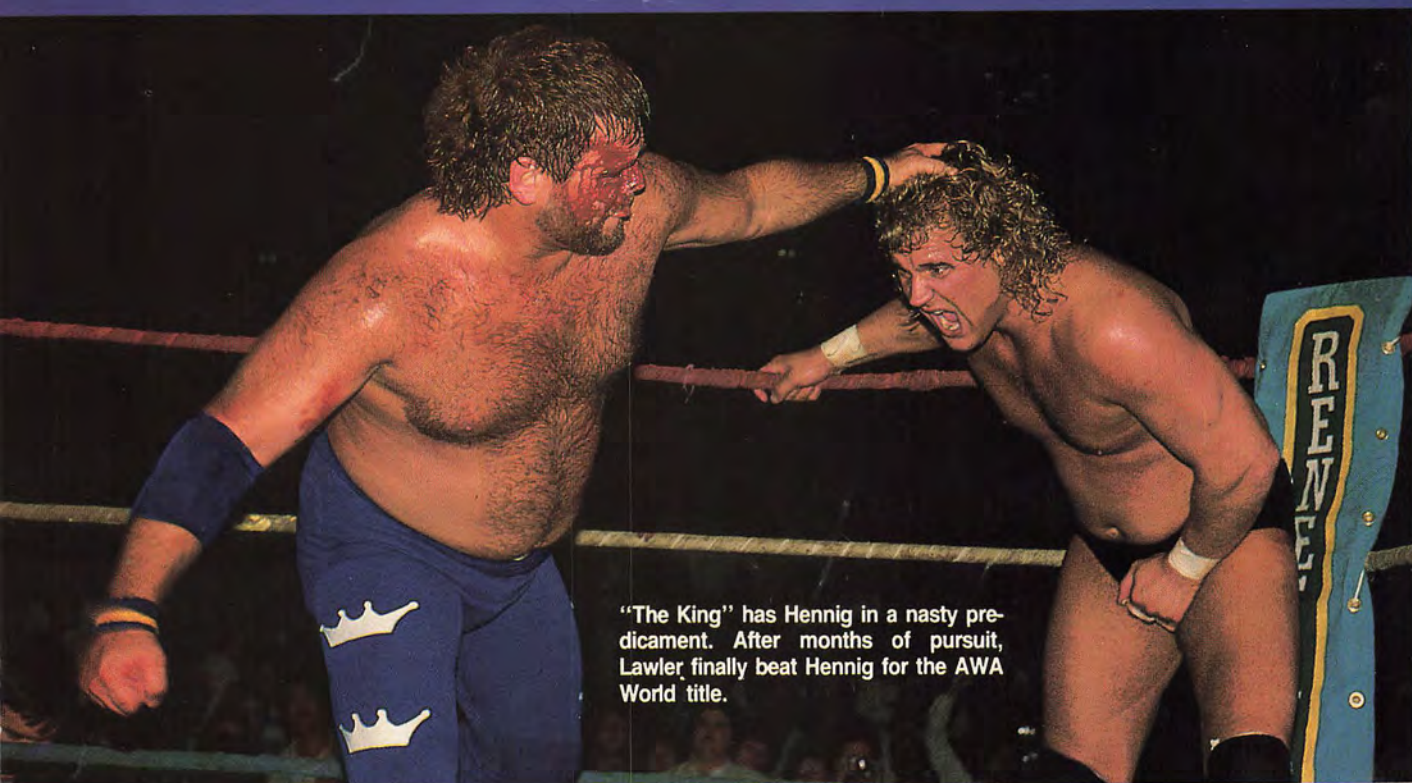
Chris Adams suplexes Terry Taylor on the turf (left), but Taylor retained his Texas title by pinfall. In the World Class title match, Iceman Parsons has Kerry Von Erich at a momentary disadvantage (above left), but Kerry regains the belt (above right).





Jerry Lawler bleeds profusely as Curt Hennig swoops down on him (left) and catches him in a headlock (below).

# KING AT LAST!



"The King" has Hennig in a nasty predicament. After months of pursuit, Lawler finally beat Hennig for the AWA World title.



**T**HERE WERE FLOWERS in Jerry Lawler's dressing room. There were cigars, bottles of champagne, and congratulatory telegrams. From all outward appearances, it looked like Memphis's favorite son had just won his first world title after 18 years as a professional wrestler.

But Lawler's long-awaited match with AWA World champion Curt Hennig was still 20 minutes away. The flowers and congratulations were sent in recognition of "Jerry Lawler Day," a celebration on May 9 that was a fitting tribute to the man all of Memphis knows as "The King." Win or lose in his match against Hennig, Lawler would remain king in the hearts of Memphis fans, for today and for years to come.

As the Mid-South Coliseum began to fill with fans, Lawler reflected on his special day.

"Those fans out there—listen to them—they're my people. I've been all over Memphis today, people were handing me bowls of chili, cornbread, corn dogs, corn on the cob, pecan pie. Heck, I was even driving past an express-lube place and they had me come in for a free oil change. How can I go out there and lose in front of these good people?"

The answer is, he couldn't—and he didn't. For those fans who have struggled with Lawler through injuries, feuds, and title disappointments, "The King's" victory was as much theirs as his.

Often in wrestling, years of toil and injury can take such a toll that

a wrestler begins to contemplate leaving the only life he's ever known. Jerry Lawler almost reached that point. Years of being deprived of a world championship, combined with injuries that have made wrestling without pain a distant memory, had forced Lawler to reevaluate his life as one of the nation's most popular wrestlers. The evaluation did not please the Memphis fans.

But Lawler had made a decision. Win or retire ... permanently.

Perhaps it was the serious nature of Lawler's decision that brought the fans to their feet in spontaneous support so many times during the memorable match. Hennig brutalized Lawler inside and outside the ring through much of the early going, repeatedly throwing "The

# **JERRY LAWLER CAPTURES THE AWA CROWN!**

*May 9 was truly Jerry Lawler's day. A world title—Lawler's first—was won, Memphis was electrified, and 9,000 fans at the Mid-South Coliseum witnessed the long-awaited coronation of "The King." As an entire city celebrated, Lawler basked in the afterglow of his momentous achievement*

*Photos by Sam Lowe & Bill Apter*

Jeff Jarrett, special referee Jackie Fargo, and Bill Dundee, among others, help Lawler celebrate his title victory. It was fitting that he won the belt in his hometown of Memphis, where he truly is "The King."



King" into the ringpost and brutalizing his bloodied face. Although Lawler had the fan support, Hennig appeared to have ended the match when he threw his nearly lifeless opponent back into the ring for what he thought would be an easy pin. As Hennig would find out, however, the battle had only begun.

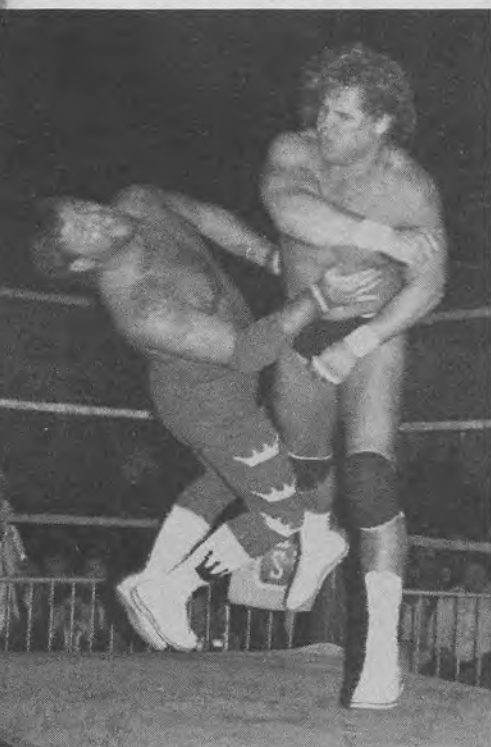
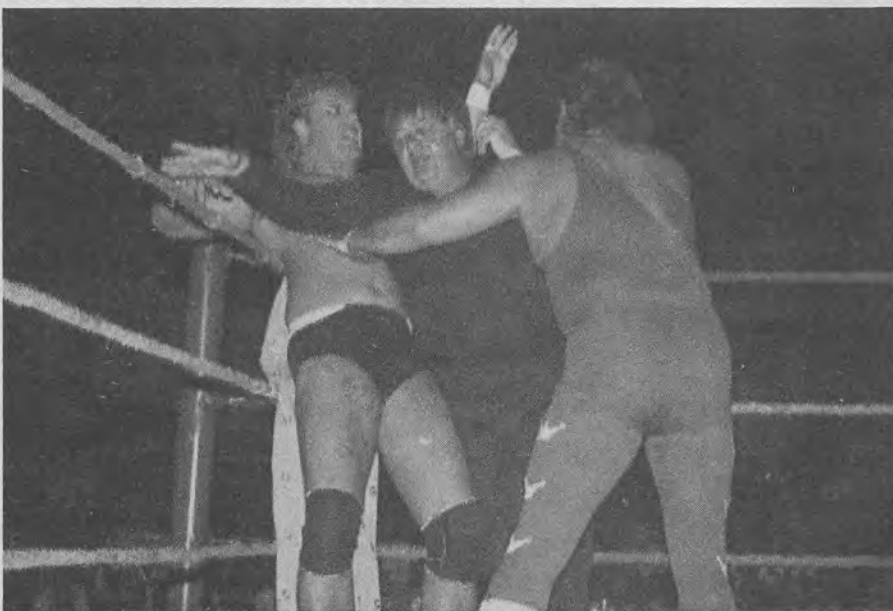
The noise reached a deafening pitch when Lawler kicked out of Hennig's pin attempt. Lawler, powered by the cheers and the knowledge that he couldn't face retirement, had amazed the crowd.

A weakened Lawler mounted a short-lived comeback. With his famous fistdrop and determined brawling, he began to outbattle Hennig.

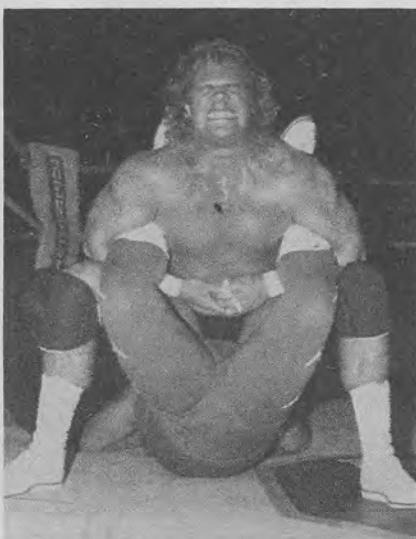
The end of the match—one that will surely be a nominee for Match of the Year—came when Lawler boomeranged Hennig into the corner. The force of the throw, combined with Hennig's weakened physical condition, propelled the champion's head past the turnbuck-



Lawler punches Hennig (above). Fargo forces Lawler back to his corner after Hennig gets backed into the turnbuckle (below). Fargo was chosen as referee by the fans in a phone-in poll; the other poll choice was Curt's father, Larry Hennig.



Hennig slaps "The King" off his feet (above) and tries to force a submission with the Boston crab (right). His anger aroused, Lawler pursues his foe with added vigor (far right).





les and into a collision with the steel ringpost. Lawler, himself weakened from the brutal war, easily covered the groggy Hennig for the victory at the 21-minute 12-second mark.

The war was over. The crowd rejoiced. Jerry Lawler straightened his bloody body, accepted the AWA World championship belt, and hoisted it high above the head for all to see.

While all of Memphis was aglow with the boisterous jubilee, however, there was one man who refused to participate in the celebration.

That man, covered in the combination of blood and sweat that speaks of unfulfilled determination, was Curt Hennig. *Ex-champion* Curt Hennig, that is.

"I'll avenge myself over that lowlife Lawler!" Hennig screamed angrily. "He deliberately threw me into the ringpost! That's a disqualification in *any* rulebook! That'll teach me to expect justice from a biased referee!"

Although most ringside observers said he acted quite impartially in the bout, Jackie Fargo, the winner of a phone-in vote to select the match referee, is a close friend of Lawler's. Then again, almost *everybody* in Memphis is a friend of Lawler's.



The winning maneuver: Lawler grabs Hennig's legs (above) and boomerangs him into the turnbuckle (below).



"Exactly," Hennig howled, his face displaying the anger that only moments earlier fueled his relentless attacks on Lawler. "Lawler's got this whole city hypnotized. I've got to get my belt back quick so I can open the eyes of these hick fans down here."

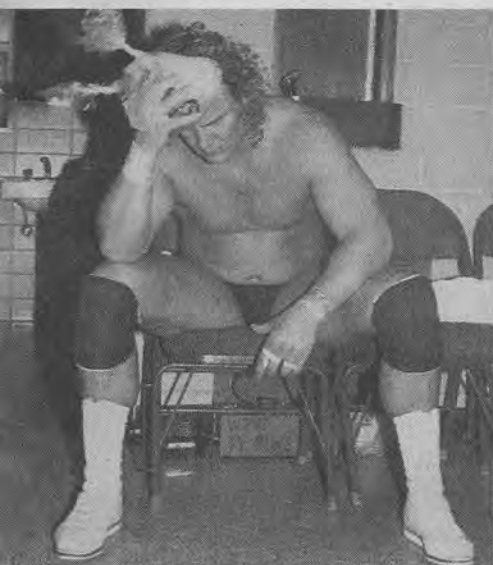
Hennig's frustration is understandable. The feud between he and Lawler had been building for months. Initially, Hennig accepted a chance to be Eddie Gilbert's bounty hunter so he could cripple Lawler, hoping to silence Lawler's claims of royalty. If Hennig wore the AWA belt, he reasoned, how could Lawler call himself "King"?

Those seeds of discontent quickly grew into a harvest of aggravation for Hennig, aggravation that was heightened by Fargo's selection as referee—and that reached an apex with the loss of his title.

Now, while Lawler celebrates, the beltless Hennig is left to gnaw on the faded hopes of a victory that could have been.

"I'm going to make Lawler and all his fans pay. I'm going to get my belt back!" Hennig screamed, reaching a level of almost uncontrollable incoherence. Indeed, he must live with the bitterest of all truths.

Jerry Lawler is "King." And he's got the belt to prove it. □



Hennig soothes his aching head and ponders the loss of his title (above) as Lawler celebrates with his fans (right).





# *Bad News For The Hart Foundation:* **BRET DEFECTS!**

*Photos by David Fitzgerald*

**The Hart Foundation may need a heart transplant. Bret "The Hitman" Hart, considered to be the infamous tag team's prime motivating force, has apparently split from his partners to pursue an old vendetta. But Jimmy Hart and Jim Neidhart may not let him break away so easily**

**T**HE HART FOUNDATION has received a great deal of bad news—Bad News Brown, that is.

The notorious organization's very existence is threatened by Bret Hart's all-consuming feud against Bad News Brown. Hart has forsaken everything—including, it would appear, his own teammate and manager—to avenge Brown's sneak-attack on him during the WrestleMania IV battle royal. That match renewed a rivalry rich in hate and rancor. Brown (then known as Bad News Allen) and Hart battled for two violent years in the Stampede area

in the early 1980s. The feud, which was never resolved, has recently scaled new heights of brutality in the WWF.

Hart, who for years has been reviled as one of the federation's top rule-breakers, is suddenly receiving the enthusiastic applause of fans and critics. Will the unexpected fan support encourage "The Hitman" to dump Jimmy Hart and Jim Neidhart? Is Hart angry enough to ditch the team that made him famous and led him to a nine-month WWF World tag title reign?

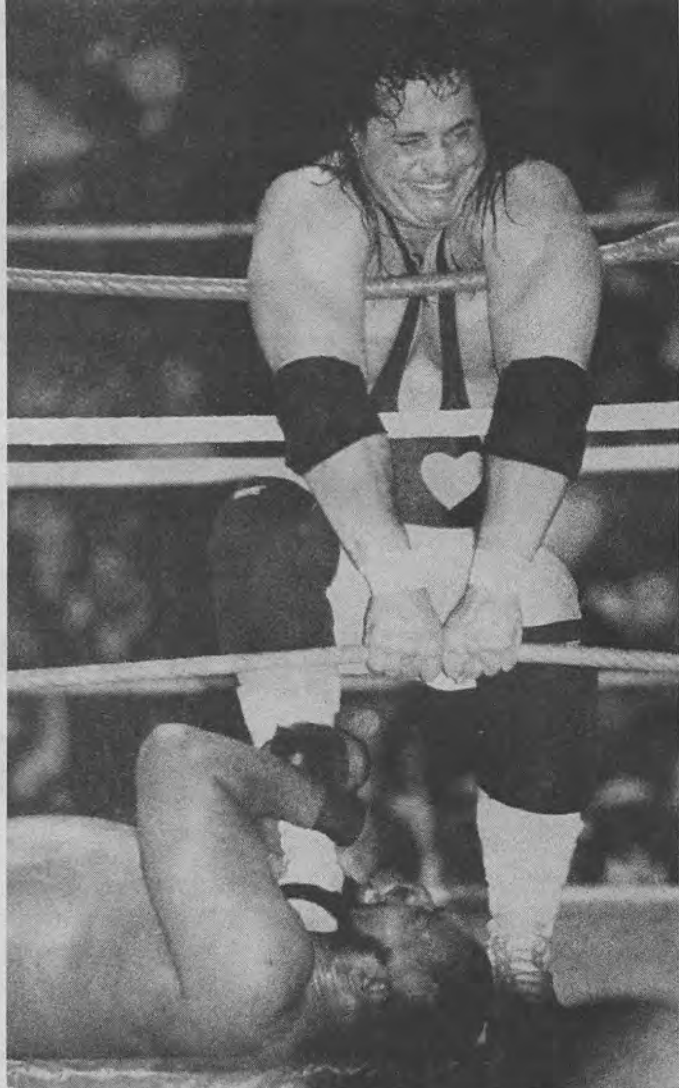
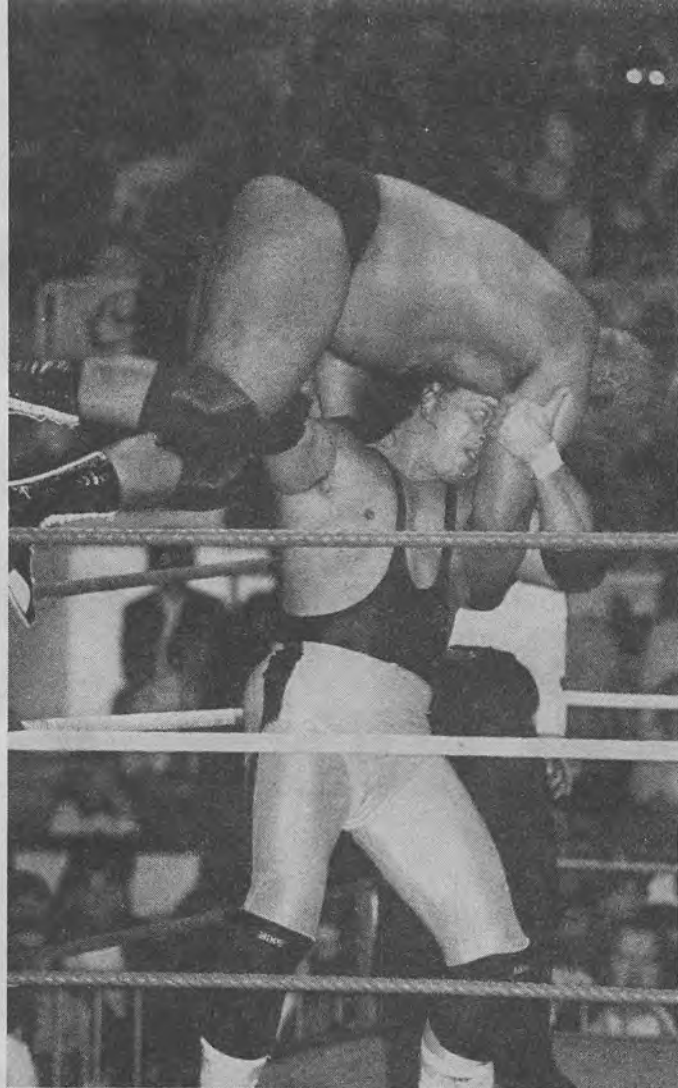
These questions may have recently been answered—much to the dismay

of Hart Foundation fans. Actions at one significant match may tell the tale:

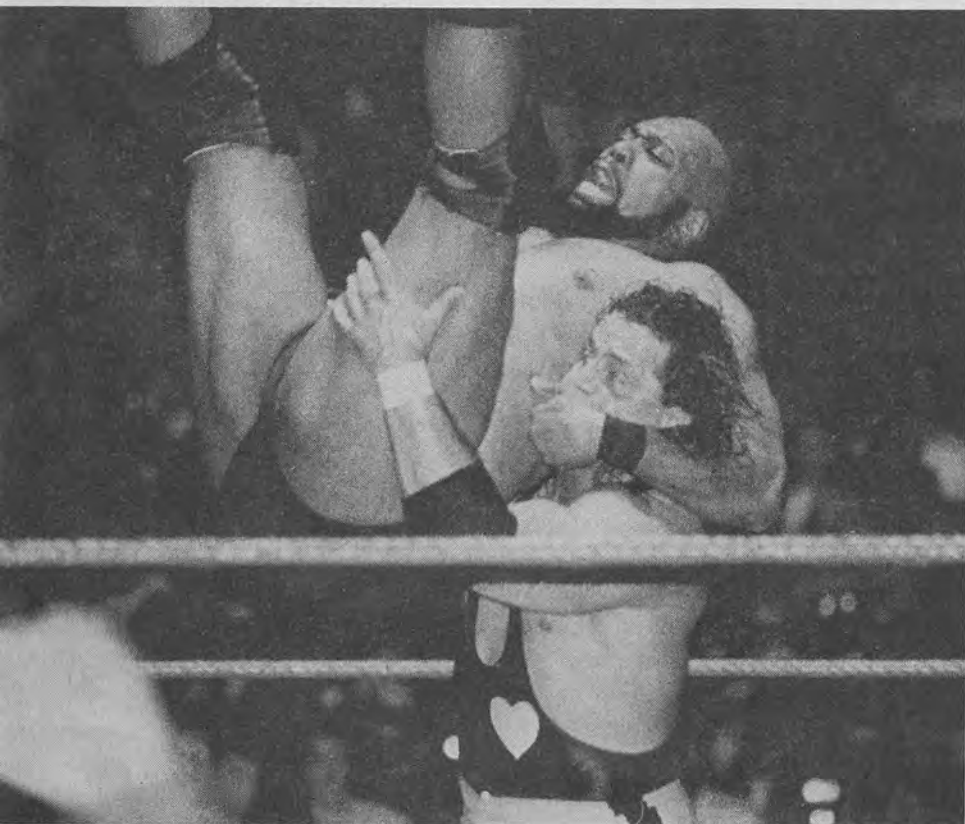
As Hart and Brown prepared for another battle in their war, Jimmy Hart circled the ring, screaming threats and epithets at his charge's opponent. Bret, in obvious disgust, motioned his megaphone-waving manager away from the ring. When Jimmy hesitated, Bret moved toward him menacingly. Hart fled, and the crowd cheered loudly.

Is "The Hitman" falling prey to one of wrestling's oldest syndromes? "Hart gives every indication of falling hypnotically under the fans' spell," says noted





Bret Hart throws Bad News Brown to the mat (above left), stomps him in the throat (above right), and readies him for an atomic drop (below). The more Hart feuds with Brown, the less he cares about his partnership with Jim Neidhart.



sports psychologist Dr. Sidney M. Basil. "Hart has been booed soundly for years. Though he feigns indifference to the catcalls and death threats, the effect subconsciously is quite dramatic.

"It becomes a heavy weight," Basil continued, "a burden in and of itself. To suddenly be cheered is to lift that weight off. You can see it by watching films. Hart is moving faster. His execution is quicker than it was before the feud. The move from rulebreaker to fan favorite is always an extraordinary transformation. It's my feeling that Bret Hart is finished as a member of The Hart Foundation. His rulebreaking days—at least temporarily—are through. And it won't be long before physical violence escalates between him and Jim Neidhart. Probably to be initiated by Jimmy Hart, who will attempt to save face after Hart dismissed him from the ring."

In televised interviews, Neidhart steadfastly supports his teammate in his current feud. But private sources

*(Continued on page 60)*

# HOTSEAT

## KERRY VON ERICH

### "I HAVE MY DOUBTS ABOUT MICHAEL HAYES!"

**S**PORTSMEN BECOME legends by overcoming great obstacles to obtain victory. Somehow, Kerry Von Erich does it again and again. Overcoming crippling injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident almost two years ago, "The Modern-Day Warrior" has rebounded to win the World Class heavyweight title not once, but twice, with the latest triumph coming May 8 against Iceman Parsons at the fifth annual Von Erich Parade of Champions in Irving, Texas.

It was sweet revenge for Kerry, as Parsons and his Freebird friends, Buddy Roberts and Terry Gordy, had conspired to end Von Erich's title tenure in the midst of unprecedented controversy. The lights went out during a match between Von Erich and Parsons on March 25 at The Sportatorium in Dallas. When the lights came back on, Von Erich was out cold in the middle of the ring and Michael Hayes, who had been at ringside, was lying in a pool of blood. Parsons laughed and pinned Von Erich to become the new World Class champion.

Von Erich, bolstered by the support of his brother Kevin and newfound friend Michael Hayes, began to train as never before. He realized that to beat Parsons for the title he had to be

prepared for any situation. The over-matched Parsons put up a valiant struggle during the May 8 bout, but it was Von Erich who captured the winning pin.

Assistant Editor Bob Smith flew to Dallas and talked with Von Erich about his family, Hayes, The Free-

“

**Michael and Terry Gordy seem to have struck up a friendship once again. I've trusted Michael so far, but if he's going to be teaming with [Terry] Gordy, he's going to have to do a lot to keep my trust. A whole lot.**

”

birds, the fans, his health, and his championship.

**Q:** Kerry, congratulations on winning back the World Class title with your victory at the Parade of Champions! You've been an inspiration to fans all over the world the past few months.

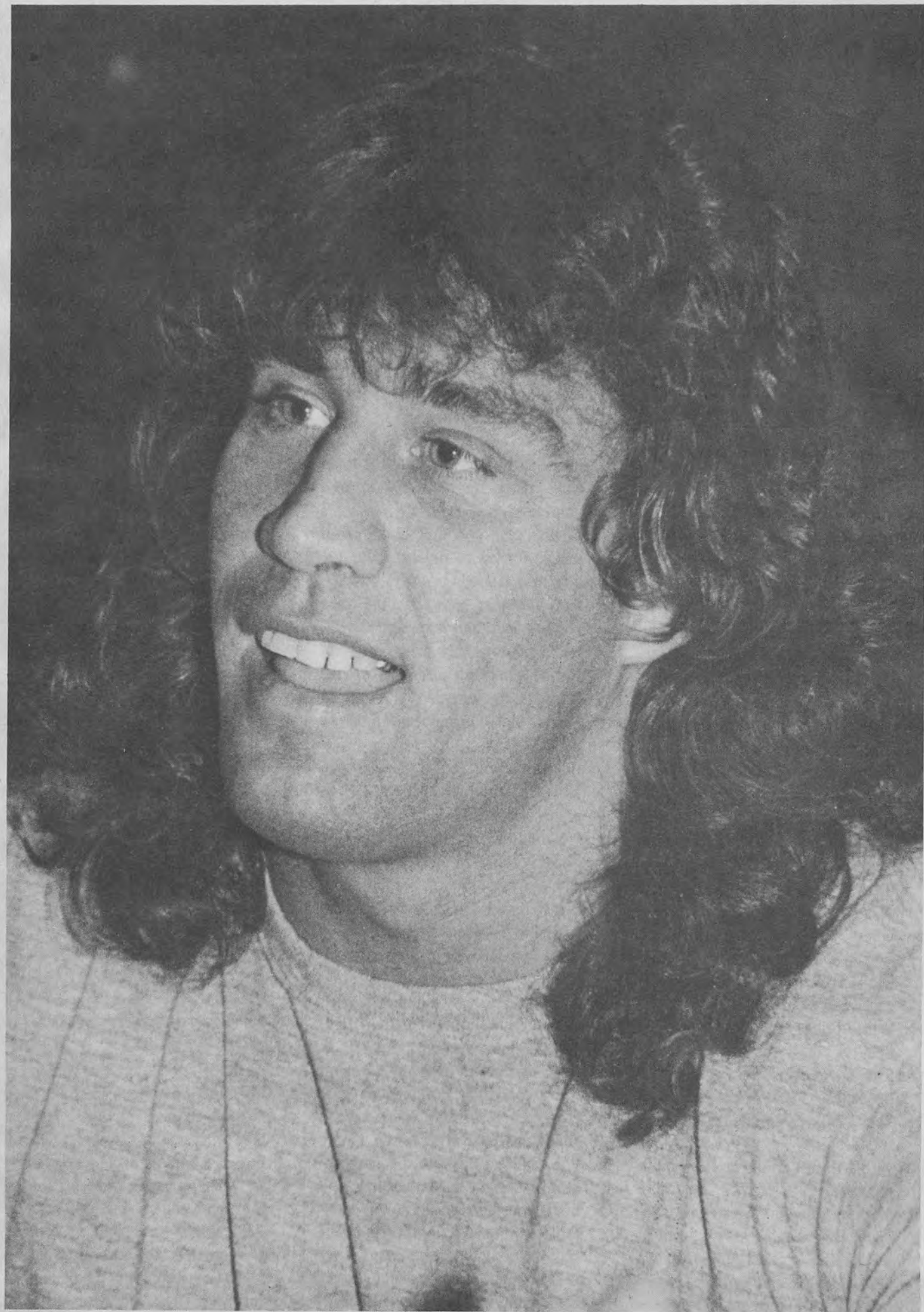
**A:** Thanks, Bob. As always, I

couldn't have done it without the support of those fans, or without the support of my family and the Good Lord above. This time was the most satisfying of all my title victories, I think, even more so than when I beat [Ric] Flair in '84. I had to put up with so much from not only Parsons, but from Roberts and Gordy, who were responsible for my losing the title in that "lights out" match. It tested my faith, but I came out on top.

**Q:** Parsons, along with Terry Gordy, Angel of Death, and Buddy Roberts, were also responsible for putting your father in the hospital on Christmas Day when they attacked him before your match with then-champion Al Perez. You have now won your title back, and several months have gone by since Fritz was injured. Has time mellowed your attitude toward these wrestlers?

**A:** That's an interesting question. First of all, I want all the fans to know that even after all they've done to me and my family, I don't hate those guys. The Bible tells us not to live with hatred in your heart, and that's something I try to remember. With men like these







“

**Parsons used to be a good friend of the Von Erchs. Then all that Freebird poison started creeping into his bloodstream.**

”

around, though, it takes hard work to keep a clear head. They obviously tried to hurt my dad. They were the ones behind my losing the title to Parsons. It was obvious that Gordy and Black Bart engineered that idiocy when the lights went out at The Sportatorium. Thanks to my upbringing, I managed to show them all the error of their ways by winning the title back *cleanly*. Even after all they've done, I'm still the champion. They'll learn the error of their ways in the long run, just like Michael Hayes did.

**Q:** Which brings us to one of the most unlikely pairings of the year. Your teaming with Hayes surprised many people, and most of the fans I know are very excited about your friendship. Will we see you team with Michael again in the months to come?

**A:** Michael came to my rescue when Gary Hart and Al Perez were attacking me. I saved him when Angel of Death and Parsons ganged up on him. We've got a very good

mutual understanding. But I have my doubts about Michael right now.

**Q:** How can that be? As far as I can tell, he's done nothing but help you out the past several months.

**A:** That's true. We even managed to defeat his Freebird buddies as a tag team. But after the "Triple Dome of Terror" match at the Parade of Champions, Michael and Terry Gordy seem to have struck up a friendship once again. As you said before, Gordy was one of the ones to hurt my dad. I've trusted Michael so far, but if he's going to be teaming with Gordy, he's going to have to do a lot to keep my trust. *A whole lot.*

**Q:** Particularly with those other men still calling for your blood *and* your title.

**A:** That's precisely my point. You know, I used to dream about the day that Roberts, Gordy, and the rest of their friends would take Hayes' lead and stopped all this feuding—not only with me and Kevin, but with the rest of the World Class wrestlers. I guess to expect that to happen would be pretty silly.

**Q:** But are you still friends with Hayes? Are your days as teammates history?

**A:** I wouldn't say that. Hayes has done nothing to betray me. He's still a friend. What I'm trying to say is that I'd hate for something to come between us now. We've both come too far to have a problem now.

**Q:** Indeed. How has your brother Kevin reacted to all the controversy surrounding your career?

**A:** Kevin is like the rock of Gibraltar when everything around me goes crazy. He's the one I can always count on to be there when I need him, and I always do the same for him. It doesn't hurt either that year after year his wrestling skills continue to improve. I don't think he gets the recognition he deserves for being a great wrestler. I may be the champion, but as far as I'm con-

cerned my big brother will always be the greatest wrestler in the world.

**Q:** Well said. How does he get along with Hayes?

**A:** Well, they teamed up recently at The Sportatorium and they beat Killer Brooks and The Hood in less than six minutes. They seem to get along just fine, and the other members of my family have grown to like Hayes, too.

**Q:** Despite winning the title twice during 1988, you had to undergo months of therapy and training to get yourself back in the ring after your terrible motorcycle accident back on June 4, 1986. It took a lot of perseverance just to get back into the ring, let alone win a title. Do you feel any lasting effects from your injuries?

**A:** I'd be lying if I said I didn't think about it every day. But right now



Iceman Parsons grabs the ropes to stop Kerry's sunset flip. Kerry won his second World Class title from Parsons.

it's more a psychological thing than it is physical. Sometimes, I get a little bit tentative in the ring, and that gets me in trouble. But I've seen reports that I've been favoring my right ankle. I just don't see it. Believe me, there's no pain there. If anything, I've been paying so much attention to the ankle in training, it's stronger than it was.



**Q:** Are you bitter about how things worked out for you?

**A:** How can I be bitter? I keep the proper frame of mind. I realize that I'm blessed to be where I am today. There are a lot of people in this world that are a lot worse off than I am. In recent years, I've spoken to a lot of people who have lost loved ones in accidents. I try to help them by telling them about my experiences. When you think about it, I have little to complain about. I've got my health, my family, and I can still compete in the sport I love more than anything else in the world. What else could I want?

**Q:** Some people think your physique is better now, than it's ever been. You've done a great job of getting yourself back in shape, particularly your upper body.

**A:** Thanks. It's nice to hear something nice about my condition once in a while (*laughs*).

**Q:** Now that you have regained the title, it appears that everyone will

be gunning for your belt. Almost everybody in World Class has publicly challenged you. Parsons is still calling for your scalp, too.

**A:** That's fine with me. Parsons used to be a good friend of the Von Erchs. He used to tag with us all the time. Then all that Freebird poison started creeping into his bloodstream somewhere along the line, and now he's a changed man. He can't really complain, though, because he knows he only won my title because Gordy konked me on the head when the lights went out. So let him rant and rave. The fans know him for the fraud he really is.

**Q:** One thing I've wanted to ask you about for a long time concerns the World Class tag team title, which you and Kevin continue to hold. It's become kind of a lost title, hasn't it? You and Kevin rarely defend those belts.

**A:** It's only because of our singles pursuits. Believe me, we'll be defending that title. We never meant



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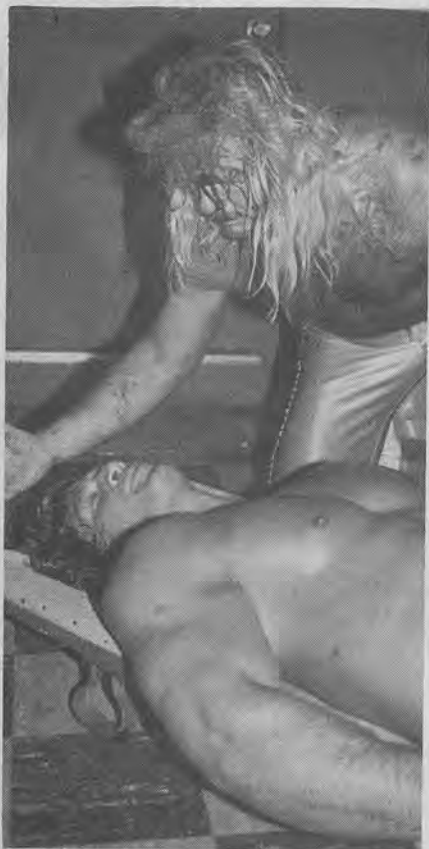
**I think I'll be able to hold on to the [World Class title] for a while this time, provided that the lights stay on and the ring doesn't collapse.**

”

to lose sight of our tag team; it's just that we've both been so busy with our feuds. The World Class officials realize that we are the champions. We're very proud to hold those belts.

**Q:** As champion, what would you like to see happen over the next several months?

**A:** First, I think I'll be able to hold on to the championship for a while this time, provided that the lights stay on and the ring doesn't collapse (*laughs*). Second, I want Kevin to start to get the respect he deserves in the wrestling world. Most important, though, I'd like to put an end to all these feuds and get back to some good, hard wrestling. I think a lot of the fans feel the same way. Unfortunately, people like Gordy, Roberts, and Parsons only know about one thing, and that's mindless violence. Sometimes, you have to do things you don't want to do, but I guess I still need to teach those guys a *serious* lesson. □



Michael Hayes attends to Kerry Von Erch after Kerry had been knocked out in the infamous "lights out" match (above left). Hayes' concern is quite a change from 1984, when the two men were part of the violent Freebird-Von Erch wars (above right).

**The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One**

# ONE ON ONE

**C**ONTROVERSY SEEMS TO be the watchword for Lex Luger over the past year.

At the end of 1987, Luger shocked the wrestling world by abandoning The Four Horsemen. But until his surprising departure, Luger seemed quite comfortable as a Horseman. He dined at the finest restaurants, partied late into the night, and was always accompanied by beautiful women.

And there was one more important qualification that made him a true Horseman: he was an incredibly gifted wrestler.

Then everything changed. Last December, Luger—fed up with the manipulations of J.J. Dillon—decided to leave the Horsemen and join Barry Windham, his friend and former tag team partner. Together, Windham and Luger quickly rose to power in the NWA, taking the NWA World tag team title from Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson at the March 27 Clash of the Champions.

But Windham began feeling the pull of the Horsemen. Now it was Luger's turn to be an advisor. But J.J. Dillon was relentless, and finally Windham—perhaps believing Dillon's propaganda that Luger was not pulling his weight in the Luger-Windham duo—joined The Four Horsemen.

It's the most dramatic turnaround in recent memory, certainly the stuff of a major feud that could be even more intense by the fact that Windham now has the U.S. title. Getting these two former friends together wasn't easy; Luger almost refused to speak with the

man he called "the Judas of the mat world." Windham denied that he had anything new to say to his ex-partner, "The Total Ego," as he referred to Luger. Nonetheless, *Inside Wrestling* finally convinced the two men to speak . . . "One On One."

## BARRY WINDHAM:

I'm not sure I really wanna talk to you, Luger. I'm a Horseman now, and we don't bother with outsiders, especially outsiders who turn their backs on the organization. Ric, Tully, Arn, and J.J. have told me quite a bit about you that I never knew before, and believe me, when I put two and two together, everything makes sense. J.J. said you wouldn't be there when I needed you; he was right. He said that



*"Let me tell you this, Luger: I'm a fine wrestler, the greatest in the world, and I had nothing until I joined the Horsemen. I'm a champion now, and the Horsemen gave me the edge to be a champ."*

—Barry Windham

when it comes to you, it's Lex Luger first and nobody else matters worth a damn; he was right again. I bet you're staring into a mirror right now while you're talking to me.

**LEX LUGER:**  
(silence)

**BW:** We must have a bad connection. I can't hear you, Lex.

**LL:** It's no bad connection, Windham. I'm just speechless because I'm hearing this from *you*. When we won the World tag team belts, we did it *together*, as a *team*. You talk about egos; at least *I* never considered my needs ahead of those of the team. Look at you, the minute you think the team is beginning to hinder your chance for individual glory, you abandon it! I must admit, I understand your need for individuality, but



# N ONE



*"How can any of your achievements give you any personal satisfaction if you know deep down that it's just a case of outnumbering opponents four to one? Be a man, Windham—stand on your own!"*

—Lex Luger

don't sit there and tell me it was anything else but ego that compelled you to betray me. And let's see you be an individualist with the Horsemen!

**BW:** Well, just listen to *you*, Luger. I can't believe you can sit there and spew out this garbage, especially to me. *You're* the one that joined the Horsemen in the first place. *You're* the one that turned your back on me when you came up here from Florida. I thought we were gonna be a team, Luger, but you just looked out for yourself. Then, after you left the Horsemen, I figured everything would be back to normal. But that couldn't be the case. Your ego had gotten too big. That's why you couldn't take directions from J.J. That's why you had to blame him when you lost the U.S. belt

to Dusty Rhodes, something that will *never* happen to me.

**LL:** Of course not. You have the brawn of the Horsemen behind you, doing your dirty work, crippling your opponents *before* matches, interfering *during* matches. You talk about yourself as such a fine wrestler, and you *are* a fine wrestler, but how can any of your achievements give you any personal satisfaction if you know deep down that it's just a case of outnumbering opponents four to one? Wasn't it *you* who finally convinced me of that? Be a man, Windham—stand on your own!

**BW:** Ain't *that* the pot calling the kettle black! You know, I told these guys from *Inside Wrestling* that this thing would be a total waste of time, and I was right. You ob-

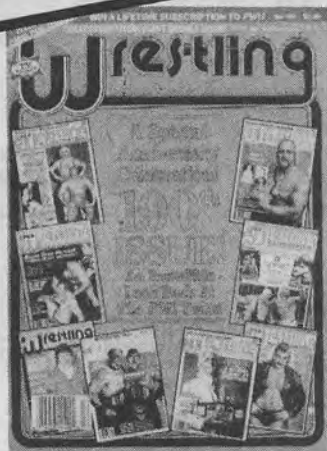
viously can't see past the nose on your face. If that's the truth about the Horsemen, why couldn't *you* hold onto the belt? Let me tell you this, Luger: I'm a fine wrestler, the greatest in the world, and I had nothing until I joined the Horsemen. I'm a champion now, and the Horsemen gave me the edge to be a champ because they're all champs, too.

**LL:** I wouldn't exactly call being half of the World tag team champs "nothing." Now you're *one-fourth* a champion. I couldn't hold the belt because I didn't approve of Dillon's attempts to interfere at Starrcade, something with which you seem to have no problem. By the time we got to Starrcade, I was sick of Dillon's interference. I want to win my *own* battles. If you want to call that ego, go ahead, but the truth is that it's just honest competitive fury.

**BW:** Competitive fury, my butt. You really *can't* see things the way they are, can you? What about *our* battle? What happened when we were wrestling Tully and Arn? What the heck happened to you? I'm there in the middle of the ring getting my butt kicked, and you're out there taking a nap. If you really cared about that title, if you really cared about us as a team, you would've peeled yourself off the floor and gotten back into the ring. But you don't know the meaning of competitive fury, and you don't know the meaning of teamwork.

**LL:** I can't believe what I'm hearing! Why the hell do you think I was *out* on that floor, lying in a pool of my own sweat and blood, in the first place, you jerk? *I* was the one getting brutalized by those sadistic morons you now call friends. What a pathetic case you've become. I'm disgusted at how you can approve of the cheating and savagery that now taints your so-called triumph. God, you sicken me. I was out on the cement floor bleeding for our team, and all you could think of was yourself. You know, I'm *glad* that *Inside Wrestling* got us together, because now I can hate you with a clear conscience! Good bye, Barry! □

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## ON ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 20)

Four Horsemen. "Some girl got ahold of my phone number and she and her friends keep calling me. I've got to change my number again. I wasn't being rude. Besides, I picked up the phone. I've got something to talk to you about."

"I'm listening."

"The Four Horsemen are going to start their own wrestling federation."

"Again, please."

"The Four Horsemen are going to secede from the NWA and start their own wrestling federation. We hold every major title there is. There is nothing left for us to accomplish. We want to start fresh and attract the world's greatest talent."

Silence. I wasn't buying. The Horsemen had it too good in the NWA. Windham's defeat of Koloff gave them possession of every major title. Their endorsements, which tripled their ring income, were tied to their contractual obligations in the NWA. Windham was playing me for the fool, attempting a gag as part of his Horsemen initiation. Lex Luger had clued me into this bit of "horseplay" as being part of Four Horsemen mythology. I decided to play along.

"So, Barry, this is very interesting. What will your new federation be called?"

"Called? We will be the United Alliance of Wrestling. UAW. Like the United Auto Workers union."



Arn Anderson participated in a little joke the Horsemen played on Hunter. She was not amused by their attempt at humor.



Only wrestlers who have won or shared a title belt will be signed. Only the best need apply, that's our motto. It will come to be known as the 'Superstars Circuit.' What do you think?"

"I think it sounds wonderful," I said. "Will you be going after everyone. Hogan? Savage? Hennig? Hansen? Brody? Who is putting up the big money to attract big names? Will the big arenas be likely to book a fledgling organization and break their agreements with the older federations?" The questions continued, my strategy being to confuse Windham into committing some obvious gaffes. Instead, I overheard laughter on the line.

"Liz," a voice I did not recognize said, "easy does it, honey. We're still working on the logo. You're way ahead of the game. I suggest a press release in *Inside Wrestling*, y'know, just to alert the public. Then we'll talk further."

Try as he might, Ric Flair could not conceal his voice. "Y'know, Ric," I said casually, "when you dropped the belt back in '84, the wrestling press said you were finished. I didn't. I supported you then and throughout the years, and suffered for it.

"You can tell Arn Anderson that I've killed many a story about how he's nothing but a hack grappler, made better by the talent he surrounds himself with. And tell his partner Blanchard not to mention the time that pressure from two of my columns got him the Georgia National title shot he was begging for.

"How do you repay me? By trying to make me look foolish, like some second-year journalism intern. If you're still there, Barry, I want to thank you very much. This is the payment I get for years of support."

There was but one thing left to say. "Beep you," I said and went to look up Al Perez's phone number. ☐

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## THE FANTASTICS

(Continued from page 31)

The Fantastics perform a double flying biel on Lane, a man who *really* wanted to join Cornette's stable.

ting—"Beautiful" Bobby Eaton and "Sweet" Stan Lane—were robbed of those belts. Well, I wouldn't give you all the satisfaction.

Instead, I have incriminating evidence against Tommy Rogers and Bobby Fulton. They're not everything you little girls out there think they are.

In fact, Rogers and Fulton *begged* me to manage them! They did! I stake my reputation on it—this really happened! When I refused, they decided to get even with Bobby, Stan, and me by plotting to take the U.S. belts. I always knew not to trust those guys, and now I *know* I was right. They ended up costing us our title, but I'll get my revenge through this article.

This whole story began in February, when my Midnight Express was flying high in the NWA. Of course, that's not a hard thing to do when your competition consists of low-level drivel like The Road Warriors and the dearly departed Rock 'n' Roll Express. Things were going along swimmingly. One day, I was lounging by the pool at my Louisville mansion when Raoul, Mama's favorite servant, called me into the house. He said, in his marvelous European accent, that somebody was on the phone for me. He said the man

said it was an emergency.

When I got into the house, it turned out to be none other than Rogers on the phone. He said he and Fulton were thinking of coming into the NWA, and they didn't want to face this kind of competition without a true genius such as myself behind them to insure their health and well-being. He said he also didn't want to face Eaton and Lane at all, and if I was their manager, they wouldn't ever have to face The Midnight Express.

"Please manage us, Jimmy," Rogers howled. "We need you if we're ever gonna approach respectability as a tag team." In the background, I could hear Fulton whimpering and badgering Rogers to find out my response.

I told Rogers to call me back in a few days after I talked it over with Mama. I did mention to Mama that Rogers and Fulton had called, but right away I knew I wanted nothing to do with them. I still couldn't forgive them for stealing our World Class title a few years ago, and Mama agreed. Instead, I vowed to drive them from the sport if they even got *close* to the NWA.

Well, Fulton called me back a few days later, and he openly wept over the phone lines. It was almost sad to hear a grown—well, half-grown—man cry like a newborn baby, but that didn't prevent me from calling him a pantywaisted scumbucket before I slammed down the phone. I'm sorry I did that, because Mama cut my allowance in half for a week because I swore.

The next day, I was out in front of the house berating the gardener when a limousine pulled up to the curb. The rear passenger window slid down and a gloved hand emerged and threw something at us!

"Get down, Rolito!" I screamed

heroically to the gardener while ducking behind a hedge. "This one's got my number on it!"

A brick sailed through our beautiful plate-glass front window as the limo screeched away. When I got back inside the house, there were shards of glass everywhere. Mama was furious and wanted to call the police. I figured I had better find that brick before we did anything. Sure enough, it had a note attached to it.

"CORNETE A DEAD MANAGER," it read, "YOU'RE BELTS ARE OURS." I knew it was from The Fantastics because they misspelled my name and used "you're" instead of the correct "your." What do you expect, though; Fulton and Eaton can count up to their combined I.Q. using two hands and one foot, and still have enough fingers left over to pick each other's noses.

Mama was frantic. She immediately fired Rolito (abusing the hired help is a proven way of eliminating stress), but I managed to calm her down. I promised that I would never let those pretty boys get our U.S. belts. I would gain revenge for what they did to us.

As far as I'm concerned, The Fantastics *still* aren't champions. The only reason they hold the belts is because the NWA upheld a bogus pinfall.

It doesn't matter. I wouldn't touch Rogers and Fulton with a 10-foot pool net the day they made that phone call, and I'm not nearly finished with them. When I'm through, Stan and Bobby will again be U.S. champions.

As for The Fantastics . . . well, I'm *still* looking for gardening help. □

[Editor's Note: The Fantastics were given an opportunity to respond to this story. See Stu Saks' "Editor's Notebook" on page 8.]



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**October 1982/COLOR PINUP:** Jerry Lawler. **Ric Flair**, Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

**January 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Ken Patera. **Rick Steamboat**, Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

**February 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Ivan Putski. **Rhodes vs. Garvin**, Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

**April 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Superstar Graham. **Mil Mascaras**, Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

**November 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

**December 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Wahoo McDaniell. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

**January 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Harley Race. **Rick Martel**, Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

**February 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine**, Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

**May 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Hacksaw Butch Reed. **Hulk Hogan**, Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

**June 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase**, Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

**July 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant**, JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

**August 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler**, Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

**October 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich**, Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

**November 1984/COLOR PINUP:** Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter**, Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

**January 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Tito Santana. **Road Warriors**, Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

**February 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel**, Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

**April 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Ronnie Garvin. **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

**June 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Barry Windham. **Dusty Rhodes**, Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, T.A.

**July 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Sgt. Slaughter. **Hogan vs. Piper**, Warriors, One Man Gang, T.A., Martel.

**September 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A.**, Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

**October 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat**, Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

**November 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Randy Savage. **Ric Flair**, Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

**December 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Jesse Ventura. **Great American Bash**, Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

**January 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Hack-saw Duggan. **Hulk Hogan**, T.A., Brody.

**February 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich**, Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

**April 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter**, Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

**May 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Rick Steamboat. **Road Warriors**, Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.

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**October 1986/COLOR PINUP:** John Studd. **Nikita Koloff**, Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

**November 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs**, Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

**December 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Great American Bash. **Great American Bash**, Midnight Rockers, Von Erich, Windham.

**January 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper**, Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

**February 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament**, T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

**April 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Lex Luger. **Dusty & Nikita**, DiBiase, DeBeers, Dingo, WWF Housecleaning.

**May 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan**, UWF Tourney, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

**June 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Hulk Hogan. **Magnum T.A.**, Can-Ams, Warriors, Freebirds, Hall.

**July 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Midnight Rockers. **Steamboat-Savage**, Luger, Duggan, Garvins, Sting.

**August 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Jim Garvin & Precious. **Hogan-Andre**, Warriors, Windham-Flair, Gordy, Bigelow.

**October 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair**, Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

**November 1987/COLOR PINUP:** George Steele. **Nikita Koloff**, Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.



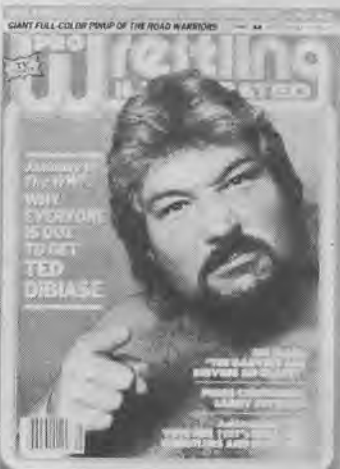
JUNE 1983

**June 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Cowboy Bob Orton. **Rick Martel**, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

**July 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich**, Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.

**August 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper**, Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

**October 1983/COLOR PINUP:** Junkyard Dog. **Tommy Rich**, Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.



JANUARY 1988

**January 1988/COLOR PINUP:** The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase**, Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

**February 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage**, Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

**April 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Rick Martel. **Lex Luger**, Flair-Garvin, Kerry, Survivor Series, Iron Sheik.

**May 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Sting. **Andre**, Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.

**June 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Tully Blanchard. **Hulk Hogan**, Muraco, Perez, Rockers, Bunkhouse Stampede.

**July 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Curt Hennig. **Hogan vs. Andre**, Express vs. Rockers, Beefcake, Perez, Rotundo-Sting.

**August 1988/COLOR PINUP:** Al Perez. **Savage & Hogan**, Gilbert-Lawler, Four Horsemen, Kerry Von Erich.

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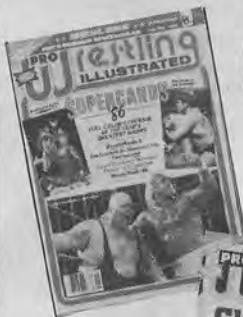
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## THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)

venge. Their decision to move to the NWA made sense, considering Perez's long-range ambition to wear the NWA belt. Their timing, unfortunately, could not have been worse.

"How was I supposed to know Windham would win the U.S. title?" groused Gary Hart. "Who the hell ever thought Windham would be man enough to join The Four Horsemen?"

Perez came north seeking Ric Flair's crown, or, at the very least, the title held by U.S. champion Dusty Rhodes. When Rhodes was stripped of his title, a tournament was designed to crown a new champion. Windham, the Horsemen's most recent recruit, shocked the wrestling world by capturing the tournament. With the area's rulebreakers in possession of all the major titles, it left Perez, a confirmed violator of the rules, without a belt to pursue.

"I'm all revved up with no place to go," he says. "It's damned frustrating to be a pro wrestler right now."

Perez scotches the rumor that he was up for consideration in The Four Horsemen. "I don't get involved in clubs," he asserts. "I'm my own man. This isn't football. I don't need teammates. Just get me a ring, put a man in the other corner, and leave me alone."

He pauses. "But it's damn near impossible to wrestle without the proper motivation."

Then why, we ask, initiate a senseless feud with Nikita "I'll Never Be As Good As I Once Was" Koloff? To remain sharp? Koloff is a plodding bull with few scientific skills. Strong as ever, Koloff lost his killer's edge with one too many visits to Magnum T.A.'s bedside. He can only bring Perez down to his mediocre level, which he done so far with aston-



In the incident that caused his suspension, Dusty Rhodes attacks Tully Blanchard as Magnum T.A. lies helpless.

ishing success.

In their most recent encounter, Perez looked bored and sluggish, a swift departure from the legend his deceptive speed, Herculean strength, and ring smarts had established in Texas. What three years ago may have been a candidate for match of the year instead left fans yawning in their seats.

Instead of rabble-raising with the former Russian, Perez should screw procedure and pursue Flair and Windham's belts. Certainly, such an idea would meet with tremendous resistance from promoters, who, as a union, are universally opposed to matching grapplers of similar styles—especially when Perez is likely to turn the two Horsemen, each a big draw, into polo ponies. But Perez opposed the Von Erichs on their turf and came away with the title.



The same courage and fortitude should be applied here.

# NEWS ITEM: DUSTY RHODES REINSTATED

The recent decision by the NWA Board of Directors and President Jim Crockett to reinstate Dusty Rhodes led to a furious protest by fans outside NWA offices. The angry mob picketed the Dallas office with placards reading, *Dusty Rhodes, Big Fat Toad! Crockett Is An Earthworm! NWA: Just Go Away!*

Actually, the mob was more like a gathering. The majority of fans favored the board's decision and rejoiced at the prospect of "The Obese One" disgracing the ring in the near future. My outrage, as you may well guess, is boundless. Dusty's impersonation of The Midnight Rider emphasized the depths to which the NWA has fallen. Was there a wrestler or wrestling fan alive who was duped by the costume? Pasting doghair on a pig don't make it a house pet. Crockett made a mockery of his post—vis-a-vis the federation—by reversing his decision. No wrestler can possibly have any respect for the NWA president. His sense of duty compares favorably with that of a water bug's.

Crockett is not alone in his lack of conviction. Hockey officials have been accused of insulating Wayne Gretsky. In basketball, it's Michael Jordan who's protected at the expense of others. Jordan and Gretsky are considered league saviors, players whose vast skills make them indispensable not only to their teams, but to the health of the entire sport. Allow them to perform, the unwritten law goes, and we all prosper.

Which makes Crockett's thinking all the more inexplicable. Does he really believe that without Dusty Rhodes the NWA would perish? As the saying goes, it's time to kill the umps. ☐

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**WINTER 1984/Color pinup:** Billy Jack Haynes. **Stories include:** Ventura, Adams, Martel, Flair, Reed.

**FALL 1985/Color pinup:** Steve Keirn & Stan Lane. **Stories include:** Albano & Hogan, DiBiase, Warriors, Garvin.

**WINTER 1985/Color pinup:** Barry Windham. **Stories include:** Hogan, Zbyszko, Kerry, R&R Express, Steamboat, Thesz.

**SPRING 1986/Color pinup:** The Road Warriors. **Stories include:** Martel, Savage vs. Poffo, Hogan, Santana, Steamboat.

**SUMMER 1986/Color pinup:** Rock 'n' Roll Express & Magnum T.A. **Stories include:** Flair, Warriors, JYD, Magnum, Williams.

**FALL 1986/Color pinup:** Randy Savage. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Missy, Roberts, Windham, Luger, Rhodes.

**WINTER 1986/Color pinup:** Hulk Hogan. **Stories include:** Flair, Freebirds, Hogan, Andre, Watts, Haynes, Fantastics.



SUMMER 1986



FALL 1986

**SPRING 1987/Color pinup:** The Four Horsemen. **Stories include:** Ventura, T.A., Bulldogs, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

**SUMMER 1987/Color pinup:** Road Warriors workout. **Stories include:** Hogan-Andre, Rockers, Koloff, Warriors, Hall-Luger.

**FALL 1987/Color pinup:** Dark Journey. **Stories include:** Albano, Hogan, T.A., Lane, Hyatt, Hennig, Luger.

**WINTER 1987/Color pinup:** Jesse Ventura. **Stories include:** Kerry, Rhodes, Hogan, Flair, Honky Tonk, DiBiase.

**SPRING 1988/Color pinup:** Elizabeth. **Stories include:** Hennig, Koloff, Savage, Strike Force, Warriors, Andre-Hogan.

**SUMMER 1988/Color pinup:** Missy Hyatt. **Stories include:** Rock 'n' Roll Express, Hogan, Sting, Luger, Owen Hart, Animal.



SPRING 1987

## GUTS AND GLORY

(Continued from page 34)

With the proper mix of foreign teams, entrants from other federations, strong promotion, and television coverage, the Crockett Cup can be the biggest wrestling event in the world.

Just like the Parade of Champions was in 1984, when 43,518 fans attended the inaugural edition of World Class' centerpiece event. This year, however, there were only 7,000 fans in cavernous Texas Stadium.

So how could the 1988 Parade of Champions be judged a success? Easily. First of all, attendance was actually *up* from a low of 5,000 in 1987. The quality of talent was also much higher. Stars such as Terry Gordy, Michael Hayes, Buddy Roberts, Kerry and Kevin Von Erich, Terry Taylor, and Chris Adams all appeared on the card. Last year, World Class' talent roster was on the decline. That trend has been clearly and definitely reversed.

The Parade of Champions also made its contribution to wrestling history with the first-ever "Texas Roundup," held in the "Triple Dome of Terror" (three caged rings stacked on top of each other with a fireman's pole through the middle). Each of the 17 wrestlers participating in this violent, exciting match tried to win one of three prizes for a fan in the crowd. This concept is sure to be copied by other federations.

Taken together, WrestleMania IV, the Crockett Cup, and the Parade of Champions demonstrated the diversity of professional wrestling. Truly, each federation appeals to a different type of fan, proving that there's something for everyone in wrestling. But they all have one thing in common: the indescribable excitement of a title change, the thrill of the unexpected, the unforgettable feeling when one experiences a great day in the history of the sport.

The guts and the glory. It's what wrestling's 1988 spring season was all about!

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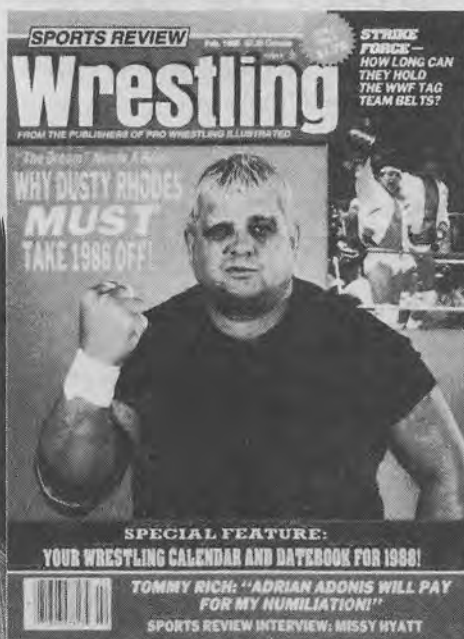
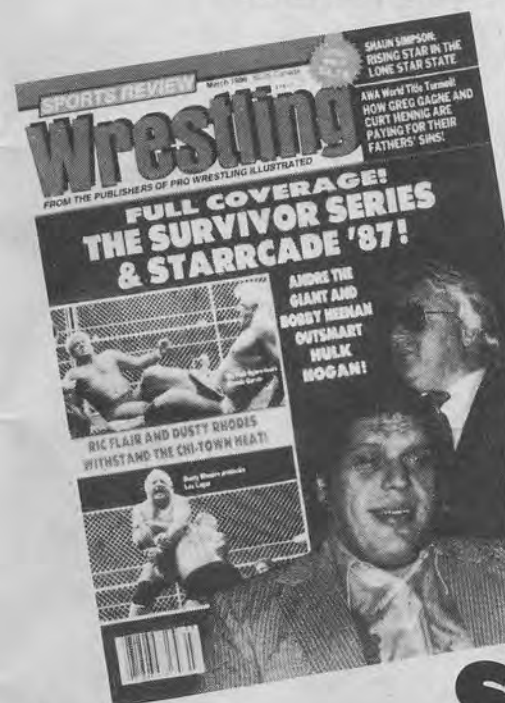
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## DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from page 10)

lenger—not one. If somebody wanted a match against Honky Tonk, they got it. Even Brutus Beefcake, who certainly has had more than his share of matches against Honky Tonk, is still getting shots.

- Display more ring intelligence than any other wrestler in the WWF. Remember The Survivor Series? Only an idiot would have remained in the ring when faced with a three-on-one situation. Honky Tonk took a walk and, in doing so, might have saved his title.

- Wow the crowd at Caesars in Atlantic City and a national TV audience with his brilliant rendition of "The Honky Tonk Man Song" at the Slammy awards.

- Retain the belt for a year.

That, by far, is his single finest achievement. Sure, he often gets disqualified or is helped by manager Jimmy Hart's outside interference, but retaining a title is an art. Let's see if Savage lasts as long.

From this point on, The Honky Tonk Man is free from criticism. Even if he loses the belt, he can still say he held it for a year. Most fans will celebrate when he loses the title, but what will they be celebrating? Nobody holds the belt forever. Honky Tonk has taken his place in wrestling history; nobody can deny it now.

\*\*\*

Missing from the "Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down" column in this month's issue of *The Wrestler* is a thumbs down for Tony Anthony,



The Dirty White Girl and Dirty White Boy's attack on Tom Pritchard was, in Dave Rosenbaum's opinion, particularly disgusting because it made light of domestic violence, a serious problem in today's society.



The Dirty White Boy, and Lady Mystic, The Dirty White Girl. But rest assured, there's a good reason for it: Seven or eight lines of type isn't enough to adequately condemn them for their despicable actions on a recent broadcast of *Continental Championship Wrestling*.

The whole disgusting incident started when Tom Pritchard cut White Boy's hair while White Girl stood outside the ring and watched. The following week, White Girl came out to announcer Gordon Solie's broadcast stand with a huge black and blue mark below her left eye. "Can I speak to Mr. Pritchard?" she said. "White Boy did this to me."

Naturally, Solie reacted in horror, but when all attempts to get Pritchard out of the dressing room failed, he sent White Girl away. Later in the broadcast, White Girl, this time on the verge of tears, again walked out to the interview stand and demanded to see Pritchard. Solie, still horrified, managed to summon Pritchard.

But when Pritchard came out and started yelling at White Girl, Anthony suddenly appeared and attacked him from behind. As Anthony continued to brutally beat on Pritchard, White Girl started laughing and cheering him on. It now became obvious: The "beaten" White Girl was the bait to lure out Pritchard. In other words, Anthony and White Girl were using domestic violence (feigned though it was) to serve their own purposes.

Domestic violence is one of the greatest problems facing our country. There are thousands and thousands of abused wives and girlfriends in this country. The fact that Anthony and White Girl made light of this problem shows their insensitivity to an issue far more important than a wrestling feud. It's the most disgraceful thing I've ever seen—in or out of wrestling.

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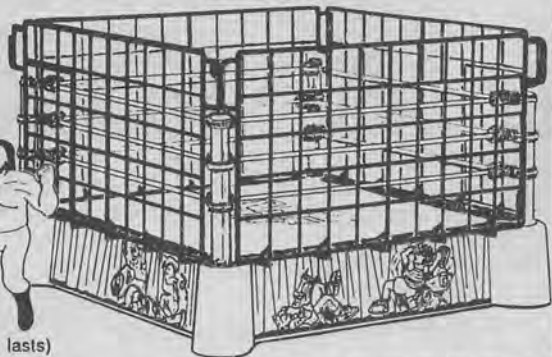


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## BRET HART

(Continued from page 43)



Hart flips Brown back into the ring (above), but Brown gains the advantage with a hairpull (top right) and a push into the turnbuckle (right). Hart's brother Owen, a major star of Stampede wrestling, says he and Bret may soon form a tag team.



close to the team claim all is not well with the Foundation.

"I don't think Hart and Neidhart have spoken once in the three weeks since the incident," says a dressing room source, "although I'm pretty sure that Neidhart and Jimmy Hart are in constant contact. The feeling around the ring is that something big is about to happen. We may be seeing the final days of The Hart Foundation. Or else Jimmy has something up his sleeve."

Because journalists agree that dissension may exist in The Hart Foundation, the idea that Jimmy Hart is masterminding a secret plot is receiving great play. "Hart's done this type of thing before," said *Inside Wrestling* Editor-in-Chief Stu Saks. "It could be Bret's plan to get Bad News Brown. Brown will befriend Neidhart, thinking he and 'The Hitman' are at odds. Then *bam!* The old double-team and Brown's a dead man. It's happened before. Don't be surprised if it happens again."

"Let's put it this way," Canadian star Owen Hart says, "if my brother quit

the ring and opened a dry cleaning store it wouldn't surprise me. *Nothing* he does can surprise me!

"Seriously, though, I do know he's ready for some kind of change," Owen continued. "He was home recently and he was more belligerent than he usually is. My parents asked me to speak with him to see what was wrong. I said if Bret has something to say, he'll bring it up. Sure enough, he told me to keep my schedule open. He said something may be happening pretty soon. He said he may need my help."

"He has expressed disappointment with Jimmy Hart to me from time to time. I would like to think he's tempted by my offer to form a tag team if he left The Hart Foundation. Bret's always been a bad boy, ever since we were children. I think it would do him some good to spend time on the right side of the tracks. And I think together we could take on any team in the world. We'd be the *real* Hart Foundation."

Who is right? What will happen next in this ongoing psychodrama? It's

difficult to predict Jimmy Hart's next move. Bret Hart appears sincere in his current rehabilitation; still, can a rule-breaker of his caliber, with a lifelong contempt for the fans and for law and order, change his ways overnight?

The Hart Foundation would not return our calls. Jimmy Hart cannot be located. Jim Neidhart's answering service screens all of his messages. Bret Hart will only comment on the feud against Bad News Brown.

Will Jimmy Hart sit quietly by and watch his feature attraction go by the boards? "He may not have a choice," Owen said with a knowing wink. □



# Wrestling

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June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A., Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.  
July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.  
August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.  
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December 1985/Hogan, Zbyszko-Martel, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.  
January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdullah, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.  
February 1986/Junkyard Dog, Rude, Patrick, Garvin, Reed, Datebook.  
March 1986/Starrcade '85, Ventura, Windham, Sunshine, Slaughter.  
April 1986/Savage-Hogan, Martel-Hansen, 1985 in Pictures, Warriors, DiBiase.  
May 1986/Sammartino, R&R Express, Sunshine-Hyatt, Slater, Devastating Holds, Hall & Hennig.  
June 1986/Hogan-Muraco, Midnight Express, Freebirds, Battle of Belts II.  
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August 1986/Crockett Cup Tourney, Jake Roberts, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Wrestling II.  
September 1986/Bulldogs, Blanchard-Gibson, Lugar, Dundee, UWF tourney.  
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February 1987/Road Warriors, Savage, Windham & Lugar, 1987 Datebook.  
March 1987/Kamala-Hogan, Starrcade '86, Atlas, Williams, Tatum.  
April 1987/1986 in Pictures, Kevin Von Flair, Rich, Hennig-Bockwinkel.  
May 1987/Nikita-Flair, Bulldogs, Albano's career, Snuka-DeBeers, Taylor.  
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July 1987/Midnight Express, Savage-Steamboat, Adams, NWA in Boston.  
August 1987/Nord-Kevin, Armstrong-Flair, Hogan & Patera, Crockett Cup.  
September 1987/Hogan, Akbar, Luger-Nikita, Summer Feuds, charity shows.  
October 1987/Windham, Bigelow, Bockwinkel, Western States tourney.  
November 1987/Bash, Honky Tonk, Hart, Shepherders, Condrey.  
December 1987/Grappling Ghouls, Hogan-Andre, Luger-Nikita, Boesch card.  
January 1988/Honky Tonk, Garvin, T.A. career, Arcidi, Hogan.  
February 1988/Rhodes, Strike Force, Rich-Adonis, Hyatt, 1988 datebook.  
March 1988/Starrcade, Survivor Series, Simpson, Hennig, Zbyszko.  
April 1988/1987 in Pictures, Tully & Arn, DiBiase, Kerry, Orton.  
May 1988/Hawk-Flair, Andre-Hogan, Dangerously, Duggan, Mike George.  
June 1988/Luger-Tully, DiBiase, Adams, NWA New York invasion.  
July 1988/Savage wins WWF tourney, Rockers-Express, Hayes, Dusty-Rider.  
August 1988/Luger and Sting win Crockett Cup, Savage-DiBiase, Nasty Boys, Ultimate Warrior.

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## SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 6)

ball! Blanchard—already a beltholder—gave up his chance for the U.S. title so that Windham could take it. Doesn't *that* silence the critics who said that Windham would just be the Horsemen bodyguard?

Not only are they gifted athletes, they are also extremely talented at distracting referees at just the right time. J.J. Dillon is the master. His contributions to Horsemen victories are incalculable. He is a great manager and now he has a great addition to his already overcrowded trophy case. He deserves all the credit he receives.

The Horsemen exemplify teamwork at its very best, and, now that they have almost every significant NWA belt, there is no question that they also have the talent to make it last.

LISA SIMON

Houston

### WCCW, BE THANKFUL

When the NWA destroyed the UWF, World Class had to have been one happy federation, happy because they insured their survival by leaving the NWA earlier. Had they not, they may have suffered a similar fate as the UWF.

That would sincerely be a tragedy. World Class is doing fine on its own and its high level of talent is testimony to its success. The WCCW has some of the most talented wrestlers in the game today!

Your July 1988 cover story ("A Toast To Wrestling's Odd Couple: Kerry Von Erich & Michael Hayes Unite!") is a perfect example of how good this federation will be in the '90s!

I guess World Class has the last laugh over the NWA!

JAMES FABIANO

Edison, NJ

### WILDFIRE'S BACK

To many wrestling fans, the name Tommy Rich brings back great memories. Tommy Rich is a former NWA champion and has held many more re-





Tommy Rich backflips Randy Rose. Reader Lori Schack thinks Rich has gotten his career back on the right course.

gional titles during his career. A few years ago, on *World Championship Wrestling*, Tommy began feuding with Buzz Sawyer. After months of bloodshed, the feud ended, but both men's careers were drastically altered.

For a while there, Tommy Rich was drifting across the country with no direction. His recent return to Southern Championship Wrestling, however, is an important career move. I think it was a great decision to return to his roots.

Many people don't get to see the smaller promotions, but I think they represent pure wrestling and intense feuding at its best. Tommy is a fine wrestler who always gives the fans their money's worth. Good luck in the future, Tommy!

LORI SCHACK  
Marietta, GA

### A WOMAN SCORNE

When I'm angry, I let everyone know it. I want everyone who reads this magazine to know how angry I am at Rick Morton.

(Continued on page 64)

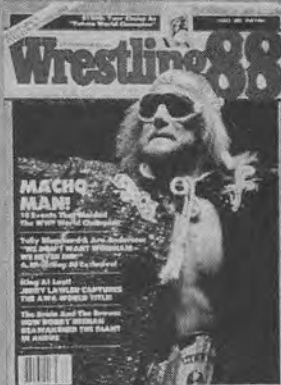
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## SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 63)



Rick Morton (piledriving Tully Blanchard) upset many when he left the NWA.

When he first left the NWA, I was deeply disappointed. I actually stopped watching wrestling for two weeks! Since I'm a very avid fan, you can imagine how upset I was. But then my shock gave way to genuine anger. I couldn't believe he could leave the fans who helped him get to the top.

That's why I laughed out loud when I read the article in the June 1988 issue ("Bring The Rock 'n' Roll Express

Back To The NWA!"). I can't believe people had the nerve to ask me to practically beg him to return. Ask to return a man who turned his back on me and millions of other people? Are you kidding?

Some people may beg and shed tears over the Express' departure. I refuse. It's quite simple: If he really loved his fans like he says he does, he never would have left.

For two years I was blind. I virtually worshipped the very ground he walked on. Now I realize he used the fans. It will be hard to forgive him for that. Maybe I will someday, but for now, I've decided he's just not worth thinking about. Besides, I've become quite a Fantastics supporter!

DEB SMITH  
York Haven, PA

### VINCE THE TERRIBLE

David Rosenbaum's June 1988 column ("Behind The Dressing Room Door") was the biggest piece of garbage I have ever read. If Rosenbaum isn't looking for another job right now, he should be.

As Stu Saks pointed out in that same issue, it's obvious that Rosenbaum doesn't care about professional wrestling. If he did, he would realize that Vince McMahon has done more to completely destroy the sport of professional wrestling than any other person (with the possible exception of Jim Crockett). McMahon doesn't even regard what he peddles as professional wrestling, eschewing that title for the rubric of "sports entertainment," whatever that means.

If Rosenbaum wants to hang around with celebrities, he should willingly resign his position at *Inside Wrestling* and start writing for a magazine for which he would be better suited, such as *People* or *The National Enquirer*. Those of us who know Vince McMahon for what he really is resent the accolade-hurling Rosenbaum and this P.T. Barnum of the wrestling world.

CHRIS SHERLOCK  
Monroe, GA □

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**November 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

**September 1978/Stories include:** Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

**October 1978/Stories include:** Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

**November 1978/Stories include:** Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

**December 1978/Stories include:** Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

**February 1979/Stories include:** Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

**May 1979/Stories include:** Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

**July 1979/Stories include:** Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

**August 1979/Stories include:** Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

**September 1979/Stories include:** Superstar, Gramham, Cyclone Negro, Greg Gagne, Mil Mascaras.

**October 1979/Stories include:** Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

**December 1979/Stories include:** Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

**January 1980/Stories include:** Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

**February 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.



## MARCH 1980

**March 1980/Stories include:** Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

**April 1980/Stories include:** Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

**May 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

**June 1980/Stories include:** Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

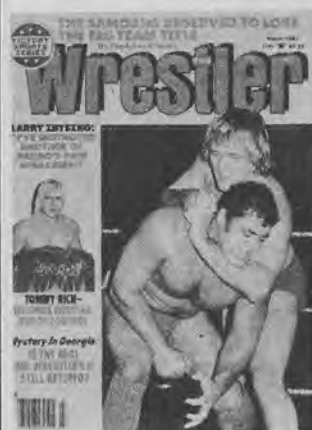
**August 1980/Stories include:** Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

**September 1980/Stories include:** Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

**October 1980/Stories include:** Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

**January 1981/Stories include:** Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

**February 1981/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.



## MARCH 1981

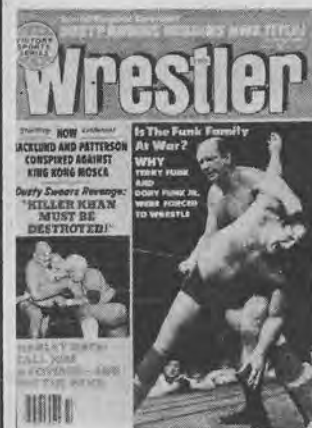
**March 1981/Stories include:** Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.

**May 1981/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

**June 1981/Stories include:** Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

**July 1981/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

**August 1981/Stories include:** DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.



## OCTOBER 1981

**October 1981/Stories include:** Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

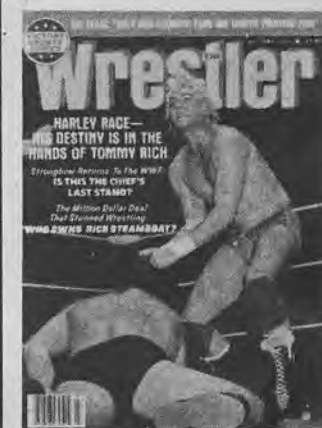
**January 1982/Stories include:** Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

**March 1982/Stories include:** Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

**April 1982/Stories include:** Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

**May 1982/Stories include:** Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

**June 1982/Stories include:** Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.



## JULY 1982

**July 1982/Stories include:** Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

**August 1982/Stories include:** Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

**September 1982/Stories include:** Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

**October 1982/Stories include:** Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

**November 1982/Stories include:** Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

**December 1982/Stories include:** Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

**January 1983/Stories include:** Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

**February 1983/Stories include:** Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

**April 1983/Stories include:** Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

**May 1983/Stories include:** Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

**June 1983/Stories include:** Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

**July 1983/Stories include:** Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

**August 1983/Stories include:** Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

**September 1983/Stories include:** Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

**October 1983/Stories include:** Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.



## DECEMBER 1978





## NOVEMBER 1983

**November 1983/Stories include:** Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.  
**December 1983/Stories include:** Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.  
**January 1984/Stories include:** Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.  
**March 1984/Stories include:** Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.  
**April 1984/Stories include:** Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.  
**May 1984/Stories include:** Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.  
**June 1984/Stories include:** Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.  
**July 1984/Stories include:** Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.  
**August 1984/Stories include:** Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.  
**September 1984/Stories include:** Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.  
**October 1984/Stories include:** Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.  
**November 1984/Stories include:** Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.  
**December 1984/Stories include:** Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.  
**January 1985/Stories include:** Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.  
**February 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.  
**March 1985/Stories include:** Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

**April 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.  
**May 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.  
**June 1985/Stories include:** Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.  
**July 1985/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.  
**August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION!** Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.  
**September 1985/Stories include:** Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.  
**October 1985/Stories include:** Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.  
**November 1985/Stories include:** Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.  
**December 1985/Stories include:** Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.  
**January 1986/20th Anniversary Issue!** 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.



## FEBRUARY 1986

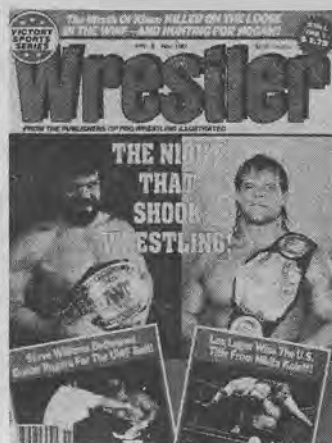
**February 1986/Stories include:** Hogan, Orndorff, Flair, Hansen.  
**March 1986/Stories include:** Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen-Martel.  
**April 1986/Stories include:** Von Erich, Rude, Lugar, Hogan, Magnum T.A.  
**May 1986/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.  
**June 1986/Stories include:** Lugar, Hernandez, Flair-Bockwinkel, Hogan, T.A.

**July 1986/Stories include:** King Kong Bundy, Koloff vs. Graham, Ric Flair.  
**August 1986/Stories include:** Snuka, Bulldogs, Freebirds, Warriors, Duggan.  
**September 1986/Stories include:** Fantastics, Adonis, Morton-Flair, Brody.  
**October 1986/Stories include:** Nikita-Magnum, Nord, Bruno, Kerry, Windham.



## NOVEMBER 1986

**November 1986/Stories include:** R&R Express, Hogan-Orndorff, Von Erich.  
**December 1986/Stories include:** Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.  
**January 1987/Stories include:** Heenan, Garvins, DiBiase, Borne & Sawyer.  
**February 1987/Stories include:** Magnum T.A., Gordy, Steamboat-Roberts.  
**March 1987/Stories include:** Windham, Nikita, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.  
**April 1987/Stories include:** Hogan, Luger, Rich-Lawler, R&R Express.  
**May 1987/Stories include:** Flair-Nikita, Andre-Hogan, UWF, Windham, Hennig.  
**June 1987/Stories include:** Flair-Windham, Can-Am, Rhodes-Murdoch.  
**July 1987/Stories include:** Cornette, Hyatt, Luger, Harts, Adams, Hansen.  
**August 1987/Stories include:** Can-Am, Luger vs. Nikita, Fantastics, Koko, Nord.  
**September 1987/Stories include:** Koloffs, Harts, Duggan, Hennig, Hart.  
**October 1987/Stories include:** Savage-Honky Tonk, Horsemen, Patera, Kerry.



## NOVEMBER 1987

**November 1987/Stories include:** Williams, Luger, Hogan-Khan, Rich.  
**December 1987/Stories include:** Hogan, Windham, Lawler, Flair, Beefcake.  
**January 1988/Stories include:** Nikita-Taylor, Warriors, DiBiase-Duggan.  
**February 1988/Stories include:** Flair, Andre-Hogan, New Breed, Kerry.  
**March 1988/Stories include:** Hogan, Luger-Sting, Calgary, Demolition.  
**April 1988/Special issue! Starrcade '87, Survivor Series, AWA & World Class. Also:** Strike Force, Luger, Rockers.  
**May 1988/Stories include:** Horsemen, Hogan, Flair, Fantastics, DiBiase.  
**June 1988/Stories include:** Sting-Flair, DiBiase, Kerry, Nikita, Zenk.  
**July 1988/Stories include:** Fantastics, Hogan, Windham, McMahon, Rich.  
**August 1988/Stories include:** Savage, Windham-Luger split, Demolition, Lawler, Ellering.

# THE WRESTLER

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In case of a sellout, indicate substitute issue: \_\_\_\_\_

# INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

## TOP 15

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1— <b>RIC FLAIR</b><br>243, Minneapolis, MN | 4— <b>STING</b><br>260, Venice Beach, CA     | 8— <b>MIKE ROTUNDO</b><br>245, Syracuse, NY       | 12— <b>GREG GAGNE</b><br>220, Robbinsdale, MN       |
| 2— <b>RANDY SAVAGE</b><br>245, Sarasota, FL | 5— <b>TED DiBIASE</b><br>247, Omaha, NE      | 9— <b>TERRY TAYLOR</b><br>225, Vero Beach, FL     | 13— <b>BRET HART</b><br>235, Calgary, Alberta       |
| 3— <b>JERRY LAWLER</b><br>234, Memphis, TN  | 6— <b>LEX LUGER</b><br>268, Chicago, IL      | 10— <b>CURT HENNIG</b><br>235, Minneapolis, MN    | 14— <b>ANDRE THE GIANT</b><br>497, Grenoble, France |
|   | 7— <b>KERRY VON ERICH</b><br>260, Denton, TX | 11— <b>THE HONKY TONK MAN</b><br>255, Memphis, TN | 15— <b>CARLOS COLON</b><br>246, Santa Isabel, PR    |

## NWA

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| 1— <b>RIC FLAIR</b><br>243, Minneapolis, MN    | 4— <b>STING</b><br>260, Venice Beach, CA  | 8— <b>NIKITA KOLOFF</b><br>275, Moscow, Russia | 12— <b>RONNIE GARVIN</b><br>231, Montreal, Quebec  |
| 2— <b>BARRY WINDHAM</b><br>236, Sweetwater, TX | 5— <b>LEX LUGER</b><br>268, Chicago, IL   | 9— <b>LARRY ZBYSZKO</b><br>248, Pittsburgh, PA | 13— <b>ARN ANDERSON</b><br>249, Minneapolis, MN    |
| 3— <b>STEVE WILLIAMS</b><br>265, Norman, OK    | 6— <b>DUSTY RHODES</b><br>302, Austin, TX | 10— <b>MIKE ROTUNDO</b><br>245, Syracuse, NY   | 14— <b>TULLY BLANCHARD</b><br>235, San Antonio, TX |
|  | 7— <b>AL PEREZ</b><br>238, Tampa, FL      | 11— <b>RICK STEINER</b><br>248, Detroit, MI    | 15— <b>JIM GARVIN</b><br>235, Tampa, FL            |

## AWA

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1— <b>JERRY LAWLER</b><br>234, Memphis, TN    | 4— <b>WAHOO McDANIEL</b><br>280, Midland, TX      | 8— <b>SOLDAT USTINOV</b><br>265, Moscow, Russia | 12— <b>BARON VON RASCHKI</b><br>271, Berlin, Germany    |
| 2— <b>CURT HENNIG</b><br>235, Minneapolis, MN | 5— <b>BILL DUNDEE</b><br>214, Melbourne, AUS      | 9— <b>MAX PAIN</b><br>350, Iowa City, IA        | 13— <b>MANDO GUERRERO</b><br>225, Mexico City, Mexico   |
| 3— <b>GREG GAGNE</b><br>220, Robbinsdale, MN  | 6— <b>EDDIE GILBERT</b><br>222, Lexington, TN     | 10— <b>DUTCH MANTEL</b><br>214, Oil Trough, TX  | 14— <b>TEIJO KHAN</b><br>265, Singapore                 |
|   | 7— <b>JEFF JARRETT</b><br>200, Hendersonville, TN | 11— <b>RICKY RICE</b><br>230, Edina, MN         | 15— <b>HECTOR GUERRERO</b><br>218, Mexcico City, Mexico |

## WWF

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1— <b>RANDY SAVAGE</b><br>245, Sarasota, FL      | 4— <b>ANDRE THE GIANT</b><br>497, Grenoble, France  | 8— <b>RICK RUDE</b><br>246, Robbinsdale, MN    | 12— <b>HULK HOGAN</b><br>302, Venice Beach, CA    |
| 2— <b>THE HONKY TONK MAN</b><br>255, Memphis, TN | 5— <b>BRUTUS BEEFCAKE</b><br>273, San Francisco, CA | 9— <b>ULTIMATE WARRIOR</b><br>280, Queens, NY  | 13— <b>BRET HART</b><br>235, Calgary, Alberta     |
| 3— <b>TED DiBIASE</b><br>247, Omaha, NE          | 6— <b>HACKSAW DUGGAN</b><br>280, Glens Falls, NY    | 10— <b>DON MURACO</b><br>274, Sunset Beach, HI | 14— <b>BAM BAM BIGELOW</b><br>368, Mt. Laurel, NJ |
|  | 7— <b>JAKE ROBERTS</b><br>246, Stone Mountain, GA   | 11— <b>ONE MAN GANG</b><br>468, Chicago, IL    | 15— <b>KEN PATERA</b><br>256, Portland, OR        |

## MOST POPULAR

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1— <b>HULK HOGAN</b><br>302, Venice Beach, CA | 4— <b>LEX LUGER</b><br>268, Chicago, IL          | 8— <b>KERRY VON ERICH</b><br>260, Denton, TX   | 12— <b>KEVIN VON ERICH</b><br>235, Denton, TX    |
| 2— <b>STING</b><br>260, Venice Beach, CA      | 5— <b>JERRY LAWLER</b><br>234, Memphis, TN       | 9— <b>ULTIMATE WARRIOR</b><br>280, Queens, NY  | 13— <b>GREG GAGNE</b><br>220, Robbinsdale, MN    |
| 3— <b>RANDY SAVAGE</b><br>245, Sarasota, FL   | 6— <b>HACKSAW DUGGAN</b><br>280, Glens Falls, NY | 10— <b>MICHAEL HAYES</b><br>255, Marietta, GA  | 14— <b>OWEN HART</b><br>223, Calgary, Alberta    |
|   | 7— <b>DUSTY RHODES</b><br>302, Austin, TX        | 11— <b>DON MURACO</b><br>274, Sunset Beach, HI | 15— <b>CARLOS COLON</b><br>246, Santa Isabel, PR |

## MOST HATED

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1— <b>BARRY WINDHAM</b><br>236, Sweetwater, TX     | 4— <b>RIC FLAIR</b><br>243, Minneapolis, MN      | 8— <b>AL PEREZ</b><br>238, Tampa, FL            | 12— <b>MIKE ROTUNDO</b><br>245, Syracuse, NY   |
| 2— <b>TED DiBIASE</b><br>247, Omaha, NE            | 5— <b>THE HONKY TONK MAN</b><br>255, Memphis, TN | 9— <b>CURT HENNIG</b><br>235, Minneapolis, MN   | 13— <b>TERRY TAYLOR</b><br>225, Vero Beach, FL |
| 3— <b>ANDRE THE GIANT</b><br>497, Grenoble, France | 6— <b>RICK RUDE</b><br>246, Robbinsdale, MN      | 10— <b>ICEMAN PARSONS</b><br>245, St. Louis, MO | 14— <b>HERCULES HERNAND</b><br>255, Tampa, FL  |
|  | 7— <b>EDDIE GILBERT</b><br>222, Lexington, TN    | 11— <b>LARRY ZBYSZKO</b><br>248, Pittsburgh, PA | 15— <b>KEVIN SULLIVAN</b><br>252, Boston, MA   |

## TAG TEAMS

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1— <b>TULLY BLANCHARD &amp; ARN ANDERSON</b><br>NWA World tag team champions | 6— <b>STING &amp; LEX LUGER</b><br>No. 1 contenders: NWA World tag team title           | 11— <b>BRUCE HART &amp; BRIAN PILLMAN</b><br>Stampede International tag team champions  |
| 2— <b>THE ROAD WARRIORS</b><br>All-Japan Int'l. tag team champions           | 7— <b>PAT TANAKA &amp; PAUL DIAMOND</b><br>AWA World tag team champions                 | 12— <b>RICK MARTEL &amp; TITO SANTANA</b><br>No. 1 contenders: WWF World tag team title |
| 3— <b>DEMOLITION</b><br>WWF World tag team champions                         | 8— <b>THE WARLORD &amp; THE BARBARIAN</b><br>No. 2 contenders: NWA World tag team title | 13— <b>KERRY &amp; KEVIN VON ERICH</b><br>World Class tag team champions                |
| 4— <b>THE FANTASTICS</b><br>U.S. tag team champions                          | 9— <b>THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS</b><br>No. 1 contenders: AWA World tag team title       | 14— <b>THE BRITISH BULLDOGS</b><br>No. 2 contenders: WWF World tag team title           |
| 5— <b>THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS</b><br>No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag team title      | 10— <b>JOHN TATUM &amp; JACK VICTORY</b><br>WCCW Texas & Wild West tag team champions   | 15— <b>MARK &amp; CHRIS YOUNGBLOOD</b><br>WWC & Caribbean tag team champions            |



These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place .

For period ended June 2, 1988

# ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

**ALL-CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING CHAMPION: JACK ARMSTRONG**  
(December 12, 1987; from Victor Rivera; Hawaiian Gardens, CA)

**ALL-CALIFORNIA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**PETER MAIVIA JR. & PROFESSOR TANAKA**  
(February 26, 1988; from The Mercenaries; Universal City, CA)

**ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**KIYAKI KAMADA & SAMPSON FUYUKI**  
(March 9, 1988; from Takashi Ishikawa & Mighty Inoue; Yokohama, Japan)

**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA**  
(April 14, 1988; from Bruiser Brody; Sendai, Japan)

**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
(March 12, 1987; from Jumbo Tsuruta & Genichiro Tenryu; Tokyo, Japan)

**JAPAN JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MASANOBU FUCHI**  
(January 3, 1987; from Kuniaki Kobayashi; Tokyo, Japan)

**JAPAN WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPION: CHIGUSA NAGOYO**  
(April 20, 1987; from Yukari Otori; Tokyo, Japan)

**JAPAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION: YUMI OGURA**  
(April 29, 1988; from Bull Nakano; Nagoya, Japan)

**JAPAN WOMEN'S WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**LI NAKANO & KUMIKO IWAMOTO**  
(February 25, 1988; tournament final over Yumko Hotta & Mitsuko Nishiwaki; Kawasaki, Japan)

**JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GENICHIRO TENRYU**  
(February 26, 1986; tournament final over Ted DiBiase; Omiya, Japan)

**TV CHAMPION: GREG GAGNE**  
(December 27, 1987; tournament final over Adrian Adonis; Las Vegas, NV)

**WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MADUSA MICELI**  
(December 27, 1987; tournament final over Candi Divine; Las Vegas, NV)

**WORLD CHAMPION: JERRY LAWLER**  
(May 2, 1988; from Curt Hennig; Memphis, TN)

**WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: PAT TANAKA & PAUL DIAMOND**  
(March 19, 1988; from The Midnight Rockers; Las Vegas, NV)

**BRITISH COMMONWEALTH CHAMPION: CHRIS BENOIT**  
(March 19, 1988; from Gama Singh; Calgary, Alberta)

**CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: D.J. PETERSON**  
(December 25, 1987; from Bulldog Bob Brown; St. Joseph, MO)

**CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Rick Patterson & Steve Ray)

**CENTRAL STATES TV CHAMPION: MASA CHONO**  
(January 1, 1988; from Mike George; Des Moines, IA)

\* **CONTINENTAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE NIGHTMARES**  
(May 22, 1988; from Steve Armstrong & Tracy Smothers; Montgomery, AL)

**CONTINENTAL U.S. JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: KEN WAYNE**  
(March 9, 1988; from Larry Hamilton; Hattiesburg, MS)

\* **CWA CHAMPION: BRICKHOUSE BROWN**  
(May 23, 1988; by forfeit from Max Pain; Memphis, TN)

\* **CWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE CUBAN ASSASSINS**  
(May 2, 1988; from Ron & Don Bruise; Memphis, TN)

**FLORIDA CHAMPION: MIKE ROTUNDO**  
(April 18, 1987; from Oliver Humperdink; Lakeland, FL)

\* **IWGP CHAMPION: TATSUMI FUJINAMI**  
(May 8, 1988; over Big Van Vader; Tokyo, Japan)

**IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**KENGO KIMURA & TATSUMI FUJINAMI**  
(January 18, 1988; from Yoshiaki Fujiwara & Kazuo Yamazaki; Tokyo, Japan)

**IWGP JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO HASE**  
(December 27, 1987; from Kuniaki Kobayashi; Tokyo, Japan)

**NWA JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: NELSON ROYAL**  
(October 16, 1987; by NWA decision)

**NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**IVAN KOLOFF, THE BARBARIAN, & THE WARLORD**  
(February 13, 1988; from Paul Ellering, Road Warrior Hawk, & Dusty Rhodes; Philadelphia, PA)

**NWA TV CHAMPION: MIKE ROTUNDO**  
(January 26, 1988; from Nikita Koloff; Raleigh, NC)

**NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR**  
(November 26, 1987; from Ronnie Garvin; Chicago, IL)

**NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON**  
(April 20, 1988; from Lex Luger & Barry Windham; Jacksonville, FL)

**NATIONAL WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION: D.C. DRAKE**  
(March 20, 1988; from Larry Winters; Forked River, NJ)

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: THE GRAPPLER**  
(October 31, 1987; from Mike Miller; Portland, OR)

\* **PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STEVE DOLL & SCOTT PETERSON**  
(May 7, 1988; from Mike Golden & The Avalanche; Portland, OR)

**PWF CHAMPION: GENICHIRO TENRYU**  
(March 9, 1988; from Stan Hansen; Yokohama, Japan)

**PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: GENICHIRO TENRYU & ASHURA HARA**  
(September 3, 1987; from Stan Hansen & Austin Idol; Nagoya, Japan)

\* **STAMPEDE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: MAKHAN SINGH**  
(May 6, 1988 from Owen Hart; Calgary, Alberta)

**STAMPEDE INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN**  
(November 13, 1987; from Makhan Singh & Jerry Morrow; Calgary, Alberta)

**TENNESSEE CHAMPION: BUDDY LANDELL**  
(March 19, 1988; from Doug Furnas; Knoxville, TN)

\* **U.S. CHAMPION: BARRY WINDHAM**  
(May 13, 1988; tournament final over Nikita Koloff; Houston, TX)

**U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE FANTASTICS**  
(April 26, 1988; from The Midnight Express; Chattanooga, TN)

**U.S.A. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THE MONGOLIAN STOMPER**  
(April 1, 1988; tournament final over The Bullet; Knoxville, TN)

**WESTERN STATES CHAMPION: LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
(January 24, 1988; from Barry Windham; Uniondale, NY)

\* **WILD WEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JOHN TATUM & JACK VICTORY**  
(May 8, 1988; from Steve Simpson & Terry Gordy; Irving, TX)

\* **WORLD CLASS CHAMPION: KERRY VON ERICH**  
(May 8, 1988; from Iceman Parsons; Irving, TX)

**WORLD CLASS JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: ERIC EMBRY**  
(December 25, 1987; from Shaun Simpson; Dallas, TX)

**WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS:**

**TERRY GORDY, BUDDY ROBERTS, & ICEMAN PARSONS**  
(January 4, 1988; from Matt Borne, Steve Simpson, & Chris Adams; Ft. Worth, TX)

**WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH**  
(November 25, 1987; from Brian Adias & Frank Lancaster; Shreveport, LA)

**WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: TERRY TAYLOR**  
(February 26, 1988; from Matt Borne; Dallas, TX)

**WORLD CLASS TEXAS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JOHN TATUM & JACK VICTORY**  
(April 8, 1988; from Steve & Shaun Simpson; Ft. Worth, TX)

**WORLD ORGANIZATION CHAMPION: MR. ITO**  
(April 18, 1988; tournament final over Hacksaw Higgins; Mobile, AL)

**WORLD ORGANIZATION U.S. CHAMPION: MR. OLYMPIA**  
(February 21, 1988; from Bob Holly; Pensacola, FL)

**WORLD ORGANIZATION WRESTLING TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**RON STARR & BOB HOLLY**  
(April 18, 1988; from The Rock 'n' Roll Express; Pensacola, FL)

**WORLD PACIFIC CHAMPION: SUPERFLY TUI**  
(April 11, 1987; from Super Machine I; Honolulu, HI)

\* **WORLD PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MIGHTY MILO & TEU**  
(May 17, 1988; from Farmer Boy Ipo & Leroy Brown; Honolulu, HI)

**WORLD WRESTLING ALLIANCE CHAMPION: MIKE GEORGE**  
(March 17, 1988; from Masa Chono; Kansas City, KS)

**WORLD WRESTLING ASSOCIATION CHAMPION: GREG WOJOKOWSKI**  
(May 3, 1987; from Scott Resteiner; Toledo, OH)

**WORLD WRESTLING ASSOCIATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**

**CHRIS CARTER & CALYPSO JIM**  
(February 14, 1988; tournament final over Jerry Graham Jr. & Don Kent; Toledo, OH)

**WWC CARIBBEAN CHAMPION: HERCULES AYALA**  
(September 25, 1987; from Tony Atlas; Ponce, Puerto Rico)

**WWC CARIBBEAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: CHRIS & MARK YOUNGBLOOD**  
(April 23, 1988; from Bobby Jagers & Dan Kroffat; Guaynabo, Puerto Rico)

**WWC JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THE INVADER**  
(April 23, 1988; from Tony Falk; Guaynabo, Puerto Rico)

**WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER**  
(January 30, 1988; from Miguel Perez Jr.; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

\* **WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: SUPER BLACK NINJA**  
(May 14, 1988; from Miguel Perez Jr.; Carolina, Puerto Rico)

\* **WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: CHRIS & MARK YOUNGBLOOD**  
(May 21, 1988; from Kendo Nagasaki & Mr. Pogo; Caguas, Puerto Rico)

**WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON**  
(April 9, 1988; from Hercules Ayala; Caguas, Puerto Rico)

**WWC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER**  
(July 28, 1987; from Monster Ripper; Trinidad, West Indies)

**WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: THE HONKY TONK MAN**  
(June 2, 1987; from Rick Steamboat; Buffalo, NY)

**WWF WORLD CHAMPION: RANDY SAVAGE**  
(March 27, 1988; tournament final over Ted DiBiase; Atlantic City, NJ)

**WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DEMOLITION**  
(March 27, 1988; from Rick Martel & Tito Santana; Atlantic City, NJ)

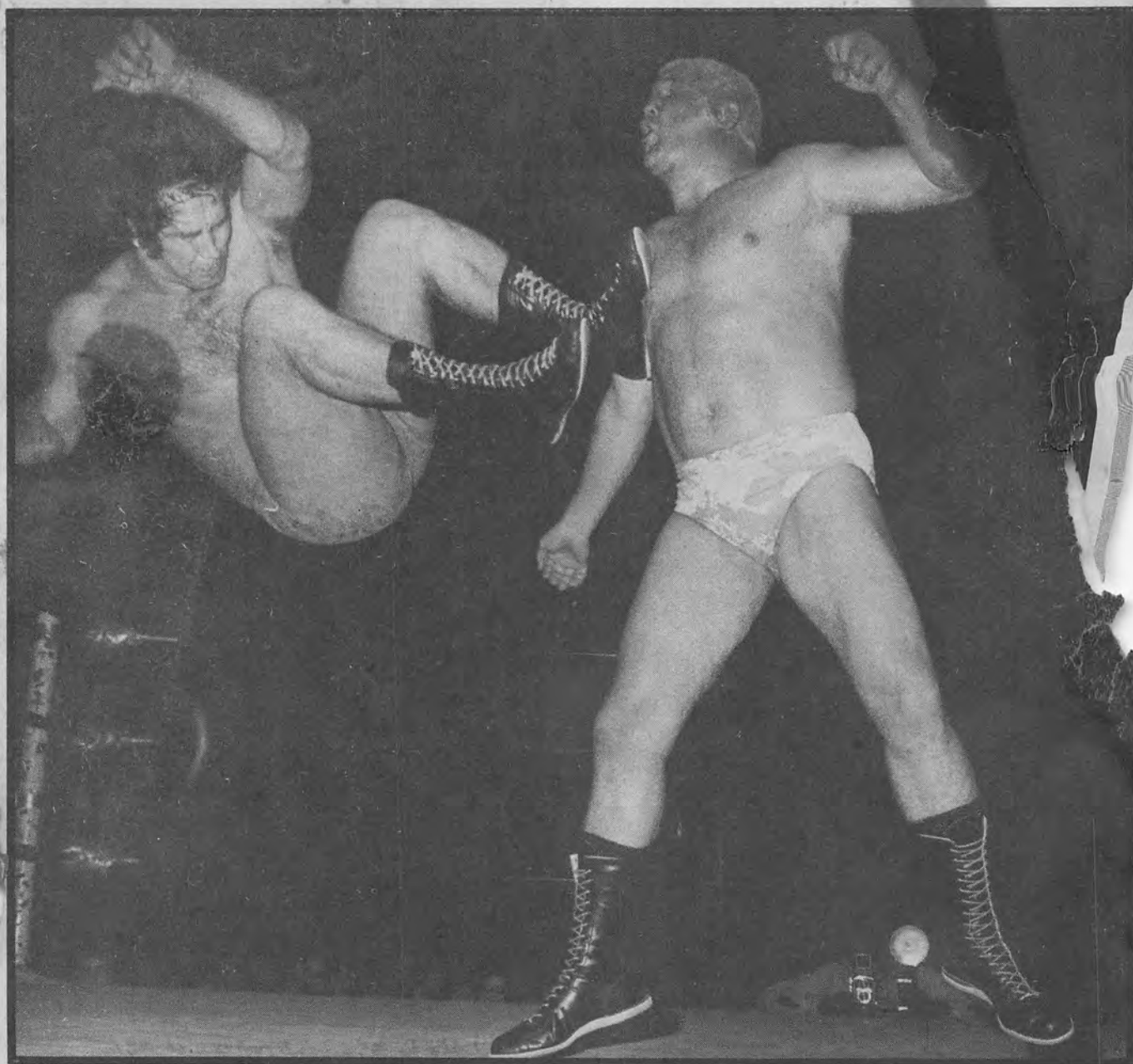
**WWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: SHERRI MARTEL**  
(July 24, 1987; from The Fabulous Moolah; Houston, TX)

**WWF WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE JUMPING BOMB ANGELS**  
(January 24, 1988; from Lelani Kai & Judy Martin; Hamilton, Ontario)

# ***BLAST FROM THE PAST***

## ***This Month In Wrestling History***

***“ONE DOWN, SIX TO GO”***



**HARLEY RACE**

**vs.**

**JACK BRISCO**

**July 20, 1973**

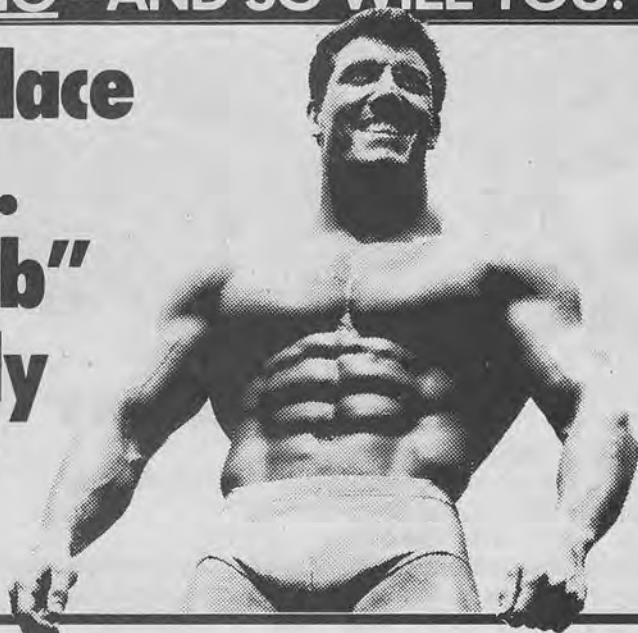
Jack Brisco dominates Harley Race en route to winning the NWA World championship and ending Race's two-month reign during this classic match held in Houston. Although he would have a championship dry spell of about four years following this match, Race would go on to win the NWA title six more times during his legendary career.



*An Impossible Dream?*

**WE SAY AN EMPHATIC NO—AND SO WILL YOU!**

# Now You Can Replace Fat with Muscle... Have an "Iron Slab" Stomach...Actually SEE Improvement Every Day!



## It's Easy

### And We'll Prove It To You FREE!

You may have thought you'd have to "pump, iron" six hours a day to be able to enjoy the kind of muscular build other men envy and girls love.

Not so! Now a revolutionary new method, "3 Easy Muscle-Building Sessions a Week," adds inches to your arms, strength to your back and legs, and that gorgeous muscle-ripple to your stomach—literally in front of your own eyes.

## Days, Not Months!

Your mirror won't lie to you. Within a week your friends will see a change. When you put on a T-shirt they, and you, will wonder where all the muscles came from. Your build will taper from shoulders to waist the way you've always dreamed it might.

And you don't have to sweat away in a gym or on a bunch of creaking machines. You'll build strength and power in the privacy of your own bedroom.

## Try This Quick Test

Grab the "love handles" at your beltline. If you have more than an inch of flab at the waist, read this next paragraph very carefully:

If you really want to get rid of that flab and have a trim, rock-hard belly, you can do it. Absolutely. That goes for arms and legs too.

## "I'm Too Fat."

## "I'm Too Skinny."

There's no such thing as a man's body that can't be built up.

You can be fat as a tub or skinny as a stick. So what? You're making a fresh, new start. In days you'll look at your mirror in triumph, not chagrin.

Most men don't want to look as though they spend all day in the gym. They aren't entering a "Mr. Universe" contest.

No, what they want is to look good in a bathing suit. They want to have the "V" from shoulders to waist. They want to have that lean, healthy, muscular look women love. They want to feel strong. They want to surge with vigor.

And there's no reason they can't. There's no reason you can't.

Oh, correction, there might be one reason: If you don't bother to find out.

## "What Does It Cost?"

It doesn't cost you a cent to get all the facts, plus remarkable reports crammed with good stuff and photos!

All we want you to do right now is get all the facts in front of you. And we won't charge you anything to find out. A big, very informative pile of information is yours FREE.

You can go as far as you like. You're the boss in this wonderfully easy way to look and feel great.

## Here's What to Do, Right Now:

Put your name and address on the coupon and mail it.

Because this program is effective in days, every day you delay can cost you happiness and good looks.

Your only investment is a postage stamp. Take another look in the mirror. This literally can change your life. Isn't your body worth one stamp?

**COUPON BRINGS YOU  
A BIG, ILLUSTRATED  
PACKET OF INFORMATION.  
NO COST OR OBLIGATION**



**Universal  
Bodybuilding, Inc.**

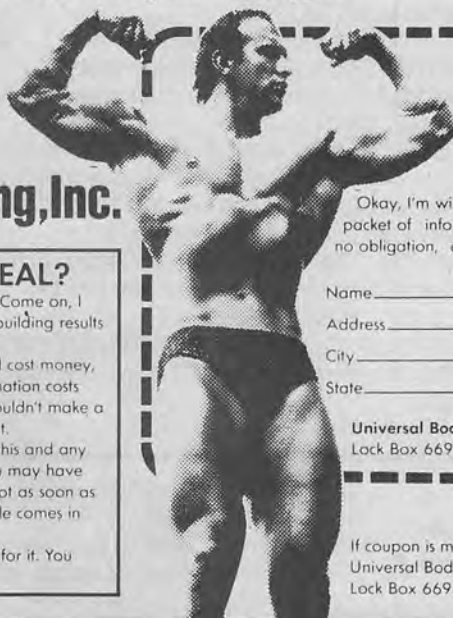
## IS THIS FOR REAL?

Time and again we hear: "Come on, I won't be able to see bodybuilding results in one week."

Oh, yes, you will. This ad cost money, and sending you the information costs money. You can bet we wouldn't make a claim we can't keep, in print.

The difference between this and any "Course" or "Regimen" you may have seen before is one you'll spot as soon as your free fact-packed bundle comes in the mail.

If you're interested, send for it. You have nothing to lose.



Okay, I'm willing to look at your packet of information. Rush it to me—no obligation, of course.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Universal Bodybuilding, Dept. 27  
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If coupon is missing, write direct to:  
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# SHOW THE WORLD YOU'RE A TRUE WRESTLING FAN!



**PWI T-SHIRT**



**PWI CAP**



**PWI SKYFLYER**

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MERCHANDISE FROM THE LARGEST-  
SELLING, MOST RESPECTED  
WRESTLING MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD



### THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED T-SHIRT

A favorite among wrestling fans for years. These high-quality, silk-screened shirts are a fashion blend of 50% comfortable cotton and 50% long-wearing polyester. The official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* T-shirt is crimson-red with white lettering and comes in a selection of four sizes: small, medium, large, and extra large. Only \$7.00.

### THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED CAP

The perfect companion to the PWI T-shirt. A bright crimson-red hat emblazoned with a white *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo in unique raised lettering for a spectacular three-dimensional look and feel. Be the first fan in your neighborhood to wear one! Top-quality, long-wearing—one size fits all. Only \$7.00.

### THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED "SKYFLYER"

Get ready for summer fun the whole year-round with the only flying disc to bear the official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* name. A bright red disc with yellow and white lettering, the PWI "Skyflyer" is constructed of sturdy plastic for years of enjoyment. A full 9 1/4 inches in diameter. Only \$5.00.

### THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED BUMPER STICKER

The *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo is reproduced in dynamic red on a bright yellow background. This giant sticker (3 1/4 inches by 15 inches) is specially made of high-quality vinyl for easy application and removal. A guaranteed eye-catcher wherever you place it! Only \$2.00.

### THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED BUTTON

Wear the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* button proudly on your shirt, jacket, or hat to show the world you love pro wrestling. A sturdy button with safety pin backing, the official PWI button is oblong in shape and measures 1 3/4 inches by 2 3/4 inches. Dynamic red logo on bright yellow background. Only \$1.00.

### SPECIAL BONUS OFFER: DELUXE SUPERFAN PACKAGE!

ALL FIVE ITEMS! YOU'LL RECEIVE: ONE T-SHIRT, ONE HAT, ONE SKYFLYER, TWO BUMPER STICKERS, AND TWO BUTTONS! THAT'S A \$25.00 VALUE FOR THE SPECIAL LOW PRICE OF ONLY \$19.95 (save over \$5.00!) THE PERFECT BIRTHDAY OR HOLIDAY GIFT FOR ANY WRESTLING FAN!



**PWI BUMPER STICKER**



**PWI BUTTON**



**DELUXE PACKAGE**

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PWI CAP	\$7.00 ea.		
PWI SKYFLYER	\$5.00 ea.		
PWI BUMPER STICKER	\$2.00 ea.		
PWI BUTTON	\$1.00 ea.		
PWI DELUXE PACKAGE	\$19.95 ea.		

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